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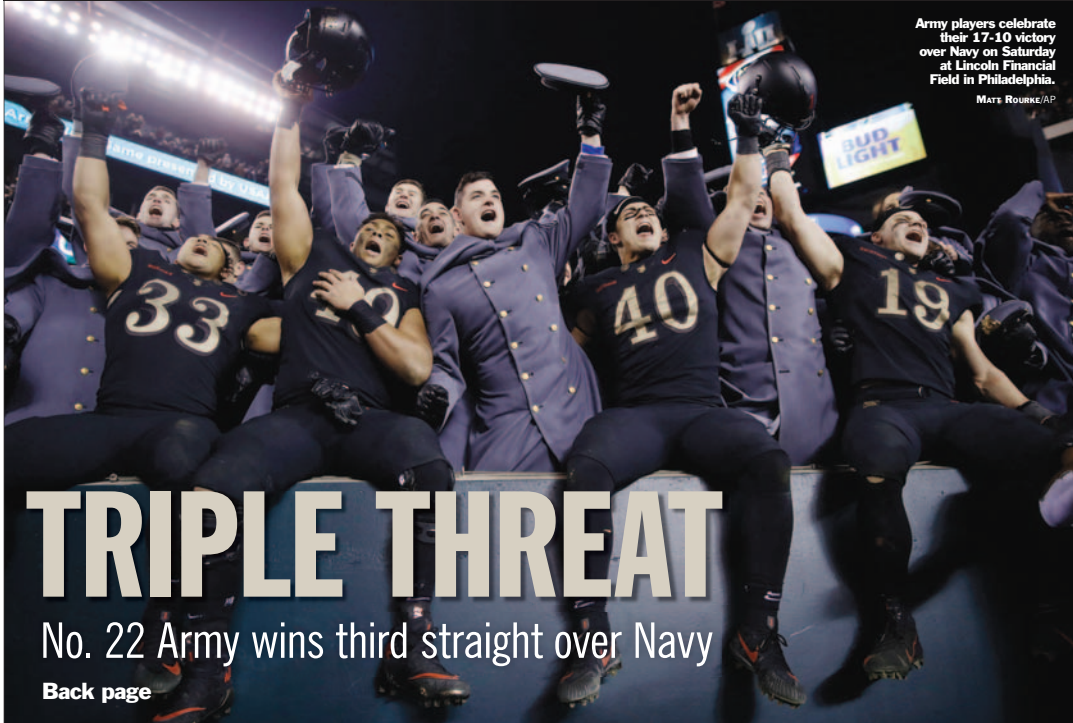
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Army players celebrate their 17-10 victory over Navy on Saturday at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia.

MATTHEW ROURKE/AP

## TRIPLE THREAT

No. 22 Army wins third straight over Navy

Back page

## Cutbacks force changes to tax services for servicemembers

By Aaron Knowles  
Stars and Stripes

WIESBADEN, Germany — Due to cutbacks, U.S. Army Europe tax centers will limit assistance mostly to servicemembers who fall below a certain rank and income level during the 2019 tax season, Army officials said.

"The program is designed to help soldiers and families that need these services most," said Maj. Shawn Atkins, USAREUR deputy of military and civil law. "Generally speaking, this equates to E-6 and below, and other eligible filers making less than \$54,000."

In years past, USAREUR had addition-

**'The program is designed to help soldiers and families that need these services most. Generally speaking, this equates to E-6 and below, and other eligible filers making less than \$54,000.'**

Maj. Shawn Atkins  
USAREUR deputy of military and civil law

al resources and could assist those with higher incomes and more complex returns, USAREUR spokeswoman Beth Clemons said Friday. "With the resources reduced in 2019, U.S. Army Europe has had to take a hard look at those that need the services most and that we are required to support by regulation."

In accordance with Army regulations and the IRS Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, tax centers must offer "free tax help to people who generally make \$54,000 or less, persons with disabilities and limited English speaking who need assistance in preparing their own returns," Clemons said.

USAREUR tax centers will not assist individuals with tax returns considered complex, Clemons said. That includes taxpayers with Schedule C profits or losses from businesses and those who sold stocks and other equities under Schedule D.

It also leaves out anyone with more than one residential rental property, or more than five capital assets transactions. Those with foreign-earned income also are affected, Clemons said.

So far, the Army is the only service to announce reduced tax assistance in Europe.

The Navy is planning no changes in

SEE TAX ON PAGE 2

## MILITARY

# USAF probing bizarre Nev. gate-crashing incident

By JOSEPH DITZLER  
Stars and Stripes

At least two civilians recently drove unchallenged through the main gate at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., the first act in a bizarre unfolding of kidnapping and sexual assault allegations made and then retracted, according to multiple news reports.

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police later arrested one man on an unrelated, outstanding warrant, according to reports in Task and Purpose and the Air Force Times. Both outlets based their accounts on an operational report about the Tuesday incident posted on the popular Air Force anniversary Facebook page.

According to that report, a 2018 Mercedes-Benz Sprinter 2500 van approached the gate, but the driver

did not stop. The "sentry failed to stop the vehicle or initiate gate-runner procedures, which allowed the vehicle to successfully breach the installation."

Also, the sentry did nothing to inform anyone — including two other guards on duty at the time — about the breach, according to the leaked report.

"Sentry response is under investigation," the report states.

Not long afterward, about 5 a.m., two airmen reported to the defense operations center that a woman told them she had been kidnapped and sexually assaulted by a man in the Mercedes-Benz, according to the leaked report and the Air Force Times.

A half-hour later, security forces found the suspect asleep inside the Sprinter in a dining facility parking lot a little more than a mile from the gate, the Air Force

Times reported. Both civilians were turned over to metro police, according to the operational report posted on Facebook.

The woman later retracted her statement, prompting police — who held the man on an outstanding warrant — to turn the case back to Air Force investigators.

Air Force security searched the Sprinter and had it moved off base. Meanwhile, the woman reported a second assailant, "which (security forces) personnel searched for, resulting in a person matching that description being detained."

However, the woman then "retracted her statement" about a second assailant, the report states. It leaves unanswered what happened to the second suspect. The woman went free, according to the report.

Nellis spokeswoman Rebekah Mattes confirmed to Task and

Purpose and Air Force Times that a breach had occurred, that none of the civilians involved was authorized to be on base and that an investigation was underway.

"The 99th Air Base Wing takes installation security very seriously and is looking into the matter and examining what processes may need to change to further bolster security," she told the Air Force Times in a statement. "At no point were aircraft, classified information or personnel threatened. The investigation into how the individuals gained access to Nellis is ongoing, and more information is not available at this time."

Mattes told the Air Force Times that the alleged assailant was an American, not a Russian, as rumors held.

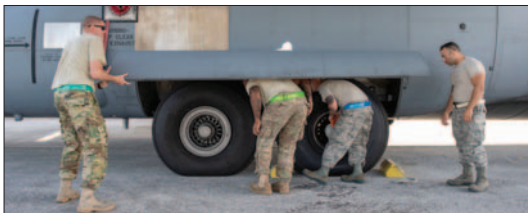
The Nellis incident is the fourth reported breach of security at an

Air Force installation in the past year. A British man in December 2017 drove onto RAF Mildenhall, which primarily supports U.S. operations in the United Kingdom, and damaged a V-22 Osprey.

In March, a driver crashed the gate at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., in a burning van loaded with propane tanks and gasoline canisters and died in the resulting fire, according to the Air Force Times.

In October, three teenage boys were arrested for allegedly smashing a stolen car into a gate at a Wisconsin National Guard unit at an airport near Milwaukee. A security guard fired a round in that incident, but no one was injured, according to The Associated Press.

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MATTHEW GILMORE/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

## Pre-flight check for Christmas drop

Airmen from the 374th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron look over the tires and surrounding systems during a preflight inspection related to Operation Christmas Drop 2018 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, on Sunday.

## Tax: Navy plans no 2019 changes to services

### FROM FRONT PAGE

services during the 2019 tax season, said Navy Lt. Tim Pietrack, a spokesman for Navy Region Europe, Africa and Southwest Asia.

All active-duty and retired servicemembers and their dependents, as well as employed Defense Department civilians, are eligible to use Navy tax centers, he said.

Trained IRS volunteers staff the command's self-service tax centers, he said, adding that they're available to assist with online tax preparations.

At the largest Air Force base in Europe, no changes in tax services are planned either, said Kilian Bluemlein, a spokesman for the 86th Airlift Wing.

The Air Force at Ramstein, Germany, opens its tax center to all DOD ID cardholders, regardless of service, rank or income.

"We do not anticipate any tax services (being) curtailed, reduced or minimized," Bluemlein said Friday.

Ramstein, which runs its tax center through its base legal office, relies on volunteers for staffing. But the legal office also funds two temporary positions to assist with tax returns, Bluemlein said.

Officials said they are still seeking volunteers to assist in base tax centers. Naval Support Activity Naples in Italy offers free IRS tax training Jan. 29-30. Similar training is scheduled at Ramstein on Jan. 7-11.

"We're in high need of volunteers," Bluemlein said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Jennifer Svan contributed to this report.  
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## MILITARY

## Fading voices

A sense of vanishing time permeates 77th commemoration of Pearl Harbor attack

BY WYATT OLSON  
Stars and Stripes

**PEARL HARBOR VISITOR CENTER, Hawaii** — An atmosphere of fading voices and vanishing time permeated the Friday morning ceremony commemorating the 77th anniversary of the Dec. 7, 1941, surprise attack on Oahu by Japan.

For the first time, no survivors from the USS Arizona attended the annual event. The five who remain living, all well into their 90s, were not robust enough to make the journey to Hawaii.

Meanwhile, this was the first commemoration that did not include a visit to the USS Arizona Memorial by attack survivors and other dignitaries. The memorial, which stands in the harbor above the sunken ship upon which 1,177 men died that day, has been closed for most of the year for repairs to the site's floating dock.

"The voices are fading," Jacqueline Ashwell, superintendent of the World War II Valor in the Pacific Monument, told the audience of about 700 after noting the recent deaths of several men renowned for their connections to Pearl Harbor.

Ray Emory, a former USS Honolulu sailor who fired his .50-caliber machine gun at the attacking Japanese planes, died in August at age 97. In recent decades, he successfully fought to have the graves of unknowns from the USS Oklahoma, which sunk during the attack, exhumed and identified.

Ray Chavez, the attack's oldest survivor, died of pneumonia on Nov. 21 at age 106.

Also, former President George H.W. Bush, a Navy aviator in World War II, died last week. He spoke at Pearl Harbor on the attack's 50th anniversary, telling the audience that those who died here that day "live forever in our memory, reminding us gently, selflessly, like chimera in the distant night."

"President Bush will forever be a part of the history of Pearl Harbor, a history that is still being written," Ashwell said.

She urged the audience to take a moment to imagine the scene of Pearl Harbor during the attack, a Sunday morning filled with "explosions, chaos, smoke, flames."

"Some of you don't have to imagine," Ashwell said. "You were here and witnessed it firsthand. We are truly blessed to have you here today to help us remember."

Among the roughly 20 survivors seated in the front row was Tom



PHOTOS BY WYATT OLSON/Stars and Stripes

**Everett Hyland, a Pearl Harbor survivor from the USS Pennsylvania, represents his fellow survivors in a salute to the USS Michael Murphy sailing through Pearl Harbor on Friday during a ceremony commemorating the 1941 surprise attack.**

Berg, 96, who had joined the Navy right out of high school in 1940. He was below deck in Boiler Room 7 on the USS Tennessee, which was moored on Battleship Row beside the USS West Virginia, when the attack began.

Berg's job was to communicate via phone with a sailor on the navigation bridge.

"He was describing what was going on," Berg said. "He told us when the Oklahoma turned over, when the West Virginia was sinking and listing."

When the Arizona's magazine blew up at about 8:10 a.m., the concussion drove smoke down the Tennessee's pipes into the boiler room, burning off the eyebrows of some men, he said. The Tennessee's stern was engulfed in flames from the Arizona's burning fuel oil.

"I was scared stiff," Berg said of that morning. He fashioned a makeshift plumb bob with string he found, hanging it from the walkway grating above him.

"I wanted to see if the ship was rolling," he said.

One of Berg's friends was killed when a bomb hit the anti-aircraft gun he manned on the Tennessee's deck. Shrapnel from another bomb that hit the Tennessee flew over to the West Virginia, killing its commander.

A few days later, Berg said, the bodies of the dead in the harbor began rising to the water's surface. "Only the back would show, like a pillow," he said. "Small liberty boats were picking them up. They took them to temporary storage in the Navy recreation center, where the visitor center is now. They put them all in the big swimming pool."

Speakers during the ceremony stressed that the sacrifices made by the men who fought and died on Dec. 7, 1941, must not be forgotten as the few remaining survivors fade into history.

"We can never forget the heavy



**Robert Fernandez, left, chats with fellow Pearl Harbor survivor George Keene at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center on Friday before the ceremony.**

price paid 77 years ago," said Adm. Phil Davidson, commander of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. "Twenty-one vessels damaged or sunk; 170 planes destroyed; more than 2,400 dead and 1,200 wounded. Soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen and civilians."

Ashwell closed her remarks by addressing all who died in the attack, all the survivors who have passed on in the 77 years since and all the veterans still alive and able to recall the events of that day.

"To all of you I say, please, do not worry," she said. "For so long as there is a United States of America, a flag will fly over the USS Arizona Memorial, and the National Park Service and the U.S. Navy will continue to tell your story. Your unconquerable spirits will live forever."

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**Survivors salute during the National Anthem at the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center.**



## MILITARY

# USS Wasp to leave Japan for Virginia in 2019

By JAMES BOLINGER

Stars and Stripes

MARINE CORPS AIR STATION IWAKUNI, Japan — The Navy's only forward-deployed amphibious assault ship will steam out of Japan sometime next year for a new homeport stateide.

The USS Wasp, which arrived at Sasebo Naval Base in January, is expected to leave for Naval Station Norfolk, Va., sometime next year, according to a message posted Tuesday on the ship's official Facebook page.

The short deployment took many by surprise since the Wasp's predecessor, the USS Bonhomme Richard, spent six years patrolling the Western Pacific out of Sasebo.

Lt. Cmdr. Russell Wolfkiel, a spokesman for Wasp parent unit Task Force 76, declined to provide specifics on exactly when the ship will depart or which vessel would be its replacement. He cited security concerns about troop movements in a phone call with Stars and Stripes on Friday.

The 844-foot flat-deck Wasp is one of two amphibious assault ships capable of embarking the Marine Corps' fifth-generation F-35B Lightning II stealth fighter, which is capable of short takeoffs and vertical landings. The San Diego-based USS Essex is the only other amphibious ship that has conducted F-35B flight operations at sea.

The Bonhomme Richard returned to the United States to be outfitted with a new flight deck that will allow it to handle the F-35B.

The flight deck requires a special coating to handle the heat generated by the fighter's engine during landings.

Over the last year, the Wasp has set some historic milestones for the Navy's amphibious fleet. The F-35B made its deployment debut aboard the Wasp in March during the ship's first mission after arriving in Japan.



DAVID KRIGBAUM/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

The amphibious-assault ship USS Wasp pulls pierside at Sasebo Naval Base, Japan, on Jan. 14.

The aircraft, from Marine Attack Fighter Squadron 121 at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, helped test the Up-Gunned Expeditionary Strike Group concept that pairs two destroyers and the F-35B with a traditional amphibious readiness group.

Combining F-35Bs with the destroyers makes a strike group more lethal, Rear Adm. Brad Cooper, Task Force 76's commander, told Stars and Stripes in April.

The combination can hunt enemy submarines and ships and engage in surface-to-surface combat.

During its most recent regional patrol that began in August, the Wasp's sailors and Marines were the first on scene after super Typhoon Mangkhut struck the Northern Marianas in September.

The crew helped restore power and clear roads after 100 mph winds downed trees

and power lines across the U.S. commonwealth.

The Wasp made global headlines in late September after being denied a port call to Hong Kong amid a tariff war between Washington and Beijing and sanctions over China's purchase of Russian fighter jets and a surface-to-air missile system.

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## US destroyer sails near waters claimed by Russia

By CHRISTIAN LOPEZ

Stars and Stripes

YOKOSUKA NAVAL BASE, Japan — The USS McCampbell sailed near contested waters claimed by Russia during a freedom-of-navigation operation in the Sea of Japan on Wednesday, according to news reports.

The Yokosuka-based destroyer challenged Russia's maritime claims by sailing in the vicinity of Peter the Great Bay, the largest gulf in the Sea of Japan and home to Vladivostok, port for the Russian navy's Pacific Fleet, according to CNN and U.S. Naval Institute News.

The purpose of the operation was to uphold the rights, freedom and lawful uses of the sea for the United States and other nations,

**“These operations demonstrate the United States will fly, sail and operate wherever international law allows.”**

Lt. j.g. Rachel McMarr  
U.S. Pacific Fleet spokeswoman

said a statement by U.S. Pacific Fleet spokeswoman Lt. j.g. Rachel McMarr.

“U.S. Forces operate in the Indo-Pacific region on a daily basis,” she said. “These operations demonstrate the United States will fly, sail and operate wherever international law allows. That is true in the Sea of Japan, as in other places around the globe.”

The freedom-of-navigation operation comes amid increased

tensions between Washington and Moscow.

Russia on Tuesday was accused by all 29 NATO members of violating the Cold War-era Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty by deploying a missile that could reach Europe, CNN reported.

The purported treaty violation prompted Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to announce the withdrawal from the treaty in 60 days if Russia does not comply.

Russia also recently denied three Ukrainian naval ships access to Mariupol, a Ukrainian port in the Sea of Azov, by blocking the Kerch Strait with a tanker, according to The Guardian. The Russian ships opened fire on the Ukrainian vessels, injuring six crewmembers before seizing the crew and ships.

“We conduct routine and regular freedom-of-navigation operations, as we have done in the past and will continue to do in the future,” McMarr said. “[Freedom-of-navigation operations] are not about any one country, nor are they about current events. All freedom-of-navigation assertions are grounded in principle and the rule of law.”

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## MILITARY

# IG cites Air Force laxity in church shooting

By Tom Vanden Brook  
USA Today

WASHINGTON — The Air Force failed four times to provide authorities with information that could have prevented mass murderer Devin Kelley from buying weapons, according to a Pentagon Inspector General's report released Friday.

On Nov. 5, 2017, Kelley burst into the First Baptist Church of Sutherland Springs, Texas, and opened fire with one of those weapons, an AR-15-style assault rifle. He later killed himself.

It was the deadliest mass shooting at a church in American history, with 25 people killed plus an unborn child.

Kelley was able to buy the weapons because the Air Force had not reported his criminal activity to authorities. Servicemembers with criminal violations cannot legally purchase weapons.

The 129-page report portrays Kelley as deeply troubled, cruel and violent. It also offers chilling warning signs of the mayhem he would later commit.

The most recent missed opportunity to prevent the sales occurred in 2014 when the Air Force failed to notify the FBI that Kelley had been convicted at a court-martial in 2014 of assault, a crime that disqualified him from buying weapons legally. The Air Force also failed to send the FBI Kelley's fingerprints, the inspector general found. In that case, Kelley had received a one-year

sentence for threatening his wife with a loaded gun and attacking her 1-year-old child.

The Air Force failed three other times to notify the FBI of events that should have triggered warnings and barred Kelley from legally obtaining weapons, according to the report.

The first bungled chance occurred in June 2011 when Air Force authorities investigated Kelley for allegedly assaulting his stepchild. They collected Kelley's fingerprints but never submitted them to the FBI as required.

The second lost opportunity happened February 2012, after Kelley had been accused of beating his wife.

The third time was in June 2012, when Air Force investigators didn't inform the FBI of Kelley's video confession that he had injured his stepson.

Kelley bought weapons four times illegally because the Air Force failed to submit fingerprints to the FBI, according to the inspector general's report.

Friday's report underscores long-standing problems the armed services have had in providing civilian officials with information that should disqualify troops from buying firearms.

"It is critical that the [Department of Defense] fully implement our recommendations to correct past deficiencies and prevent future lapses in reporting," Glenn Fine, the top official for the Pentagon Inspector General, said in

a statement.

Those recommendations include background checks of recruits, revised training and re-viewing the performance of the personnel involved in the lapses. The Air Force agreed that the recommended changes need to be made.

The Air Force set up a task force after the Texas shooting to review its files dating to 1998. Federal authorities have been notified of all cases in which an airman should be prevented from buying a firearm, said Air Force spokesman Ann Stefanek.

"The Air Force is committed to ensuring full compliance with criminal history reporting guidelines," Stefanek said.

In a 2017 inspector general report on the services' performance in providing fingerprints and other required reports, the inspector general found the services failed to provide 24 percent of the fingerprints and 31 percent of reports on troops involved in the criminal justice system.

The report released Friday details Kelley's criminal record, mental health crises and his own threats of mass murder and suicide.

In the spring and summer of 2011, Kelley's infant stepson was treated at hospitals and clinics for bruising and broken bones. His wife told a member of the Air Force Reserve that Kelley choked her and threw her against a wall.

On Sept. 7, 2011, Kelley, as-

signed to a logistics unit at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico, walked into the base mental health clinic and said he was unable to cope with stress. His mental health history included treatment for depression, attention deficit disorder, anxiety, agitation and insomnia. Kelley left with prescriptions for antidepressants and sleeping pills.

On Christmas Eve 2011, Kelley choked his wife, kicked her stomach and dragged her by her hair into the bathroom, she told investigators. "I'm going to water-board you," she quoted him as saying. Kelley then "stuck her head directly under the shower head."

In April 2012, Kelley admitted himself for the second time for inpatient mental health treatment. He told staff that he was going to shoot himself and they "put a high-risk notification alert on his chart due to his homicidal and suicidal indicators."

He also, according to the report, told his wife: "If the cops show up at my door, I will shoot them. My work is so lucky I do not have a shotgun because I would go in there and shoot everyone."

A nurse noted in Kelley's record that he had been warned about perusing websites for guns while under treatment. The nurse added, "but again his insight and judgment are so impaired that he does not make the connection about how that does not look good on him."

In May 2012, a "High Risk for

Violence Response Team" meeting was held at Holloman at the request of a military lawyer and Kelley's supervisors. The team's consensus: Keep Kelley in the hospital until he can be confined and sent to court-martial.

"It is agreed that the service member is to be considered 'high risk' for SI (suicidal ideation) and HI (homicidal ideation) should he be released from the hospital," the team's report concludes.

After his court-martial conviction in 2012, the red flags on Kelley continued. In June 2013, a 20-year-old woman reported that Kelley had sexually assaulted her at the home of his parents. Authorities in Texas dropped the case after the woman did not respond to requests for an interview.

In 2014, authorities in Colorado Springs put him on probation for animal cruelty after a neighbor reported seeing Kelley throw his dog on the ground, punch it and drag it into his house.

On April 7, 2016, Kelley bought a Ruger AR-556 semi-automatic rifle in Colorado Springs, a purchase that would have been prevented if the Air Force had provided federal authorities with the required records about him.

Kelley's former Air Force supervisor reported receiving a second threatening message on Facebook from him, on March 1, 2017. Kelley wrote that his only regret was "not ending her" because she deserved a "nice long dirt nap."



CYNTHIA GRIGGS/Courtesy of the U.S. Air Force

**F-35As line the runway at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, on Nov. 19. Three squadrons of the fighter jets are reportedly being sent to storm-ravaged Tyndall Air Force Base in Florida by 2023.**

## Official: F-35 jets headed to base ravaged by storm

Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Fla. — An Air Force base that is recovering from the devastation of Hurricane Michael could be getting 72 new fighter planes.

The Panama City News Herald reported that three squadrons of F-35 fighter jets are expected to come to Tyndall Air Force Base by 2023. Each squadron has 24 planes.

U.S. Rep. Neal Dunn told the

News Herald that the number of new airmen coming to the base is unknown but it could be more than 2,000 airmen.

The Category 4 hurricane heavily damaged Tyndall Air Force Base Oct. 10. Tyndall was evacuated before the storm and personnel have been returning over the past several weeks.

Dunn said the F-35 jets are a fifth-generation fighter aircraft and "more capable electronically" than other aircraft.

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## WAR ON TERRORISM

# Administration presses for April date for Afghan talks

By DAVID S. CLOUD  
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration is pressing to open peace talks with insurgents in Afghanistan by April, a timetable driven by the president's mounting impatience with the stalemated 17-year-old war.

The short-term goal, current and former officials say, is a cease-fire agreement to at least temporarily curtail an alarming rise in attacks by Taliban insurgents that have caused hundreds of Afghan civilian and military casualties a month.

But prospects for a far-reaching political settlement still appear dim, and President Donald Trump faces the risk of a political backlash if he pulls out and the country again becomes a failed state where terrorists could find refuge, as Osama bin Laden once did.

Without signs of progress in coming months, Trump could face the same dilemma as his predecessors: Withdraw all or most of 14,000 U.S. troops and risk a Taliban takeover, or leave them there indefinitely even though he and his advisers consider the war unwinnable.

Zalmay Khalilzad, a former U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan whom Trump appointed in September to handle the peace initiative, is seeking to jumpstart the talks. He has warned Afghan government officials who are reluctant to embrace the U.S. peace initiative that they cannot count on U.S. military support forever.

"We need the violence to stop," said a senior U.S. official familiar with the internal deliberations. "This is a rare opportunity for every player in this."

Khalilzad held preliminary talks in October with Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanekzai, the Taliban's political chief, in Qatar. The insurgency's leaders still refuse to deal openly with Afghan government officials, whom they dismiss as U.S. puppets.

In hopes of persuading insurgents to come to the bargaining table, the Pentagon has dramatically stepped up airstrikes, dropping 5,213 bombs and other munitions on Afghanistan in the first nine months of this year, more than in any of the last five years, according to U.S. Central Command.

Trump said last month he is cautiously optimistic about ending the conflict, but added that it's "a little bit too early to say what's going to happen."

Setting an April target date for peace talks is similar to the approach President Barack Obama tried unsuccessfully — and was sharply criticized for by Trump — when he set a 2014 deadline for ending U.S. involvement in most combat operations and withdrew all but 5,500 troops.

Obama's plans to lower U.S. troop levels further were delayed amid worsening security. Trump then reversed the drawdown when he accepted a Pentagon recommendation shortly after taking office to send more than 9,000 military personnel back in.

Trump has privately said he regretted the decision, as the military situation has shown no signs of improving, officials said.

Without continued U.S. military backing, American commanders say, the Afghan military would quickly collapse. The dependence has left the gov-

ernment in Kabul with few good options if Trump threatens to pull out U.S. forces to pressure it into a deal with the Taliban.

"If we left precipitously right now, I do not believe they would be able to successfully defend their country," Marine Lt. Gen. Kenneth F. McKenzie Jr., Trump's nominee to head U.S. Central Command, told the Senate Armed Services Committee on Tuesday.

The Taliban ruled Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, imposing a harsh form of Islamic law, but it was driven from power by the U.S.-led invasion that followed the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The militant movement remains riven by factions, some favoring peace talks after years of casualties and some determined to fight on, experts say.

Another obstacle is Pakistan, a nominal U.S. ally. Pakistan's security services have long nurtured ties to the Taliban and looked the other way as its leaders and fighters operated from Pakistan's tribal areas on the Afghan border.

Trump urged Pakistan's newly elected prime minister, Imran Khan, in a letter last week to join the peace effort in Afghanistan and help Khalilzad, according to a White House official, who spoke on condition he not be identified to discuss internal deliberations.

"In the letter, the president recognizes that Pakistan has the ability to deny the Taliban sanctuary on its territory," the official said.

Bruce Riedel, a former CIA analyst on South Asia who helped craft Afghanistan policy in the Obama administration, said Trump's complaints on Twitter this year that Pakistan had "given us nothing but lies & deceit" means the White House appeal is likely to be ignored.

"I don't think they will help," Riedel said. "Imran Khan detests Donald Trump and doesn't have any reason to do him a favor."

The Taliban leadership, calling itself the "Islamic Emirate," warned in a Dec. 2 statement against thinking that it was willing to agree to let U.S. troops stay in Afghanistan and threatened to continue attacks against any that remain.

"If the American officials and generals are of the belief that their occupying forces will remain in Afghanistan and that they will be left alone, then they should reassess their talks," the statement said.

Several recent insurgent attacks have killed scores of Afghans in Kabul and elsewhere. The Taliban have steadily gained rural territory and now have an estimated 60,000 fighters, U.S. officials acknowledged last week.

U.S. officials are adamant that any deal should ensure Afghanistan does not again emerge as a haven for terrorist groups intent on attacking the U.S., such as al-Qaida and Islamic State.

soldiers in the attack late Saturday.

Provincial police spokesman Mohibullah Mohib said three insurgents were killed and four others were wounded.

The Taliban, who control nearly half the country, carry out daily attacks mainly targeting security forces.



HENRIK MONTGOMERY, TT NEWS AGENCY/AP

Abdul-Malik al-Hajri, left, and Abdul Majid Hanashi, representatives for the Houthi rebel delegation, speak during peace talks on Yemen at Johannesburg Castle in Rimbo, Sweden, on Saturday.

## Rebel delegates report some progress made at Yemen peace talks

Associated Press

RIMBO, Sweden — Yemeni rebel delegates at talks underway in Sweden to try to end their country's ruinous civil war reported progress Saturday on the key issues of reopening the airport at the capital, Sanaa, and the implementation of an agreement reached earlier last week on the exchange of prisoners.

U.N. special envoy to Yemen Martin Griffiths struck a positive note, saying in a brief statement read to reporters that the two sides were demonstrating a "positive spirit" in the talks, held at a castle in the town of Rimbo, north of Stockholm.

Yemen's four-year conflict, which has pushed the country to the brink of famine, pits the country's Shiite rebels, known as Houthis, against Yemen's internationally recognized government supported by a Saudi-led coalition. The United Nations has long led a push to resolve the conflict but past attempts at constructive talks have led nowhere.

"The two parties are engaged in a serious and constructive way in discussing the details of confidence-building measures," Griffiths said. "We hope we will achieve progress during this round of consultations."

Also speaking on Saturday, the third day of the talks, rebel delegate Abdul-Malik al-Hajri said enough progress has been made on the airport issue that some "positive results" could be announced soon.

The Houthis captured Sanaa airport in 2014, forcing the government into exile and plunging the impoverished Arab nation into civil war.

The war has killed tens of thousands and made Yemen the site of the world's worst humanitarian crisis, with 22 of its 29 million people in need of aid, according to the U.N. The airport in rebel-held Sanaa has been closed since August 2016 by order of the Saudi-led coalition, leaving the rebel-held north of Yemen heavily relying on the Red Sea port of Hodeida, which is controlled by the Houthis, for delivery of much-needed humanitarian aid and fuel supplies.

U.N. officials have sought to downplay expectations from the talks in Sweden, saying they don't foresee rapid progress toward a political settlement but hope for at least minor steps that would help to address Yemen's worsening humanitarian crisis and prepare a framework for further negotiations.

## UN sends aid to scores of civilians in war-torn Syria

Associated Press

AMMAN, Jordan — The United Nations has begun sending desperately needed aid from Jordan to hundreds of thousands of civilians in war-torn Syria.

The U.N.'s humanitarian office said Sunday that 369 trucks will carry one month's worth of supplies to Syria. It's the first cross-border aid shipment since the Syrian government recaptured a trade crossing with Jordan from Syrian rebels and reopened it in

October.

Anders Pedersen, a top U.N. humanitarian official in Jordan, said the aid is being delivered in a "major logistical operation" aimed at mitigating the suffering of Syrians.

Pedersen said the U.N. agency expects the aid to reach 650,000 Syrians.

The U.N. says about 13 million Syrians suffering from the fallout of the country's seven-year civil war are in urgent need of food, water and medical supplies.

## Taliban attack kills 8 Afghan soldiers

Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — An Afghan official said the Taliban attacked an army checkpoint in the western Farah province, killing at least eight Afghan soldiers.

Abdul Samad Salehi, a provincial council member, said the insurgents abducted another 10

## NATION

# GOP defends Trump amid brewing legal storm

By FELICIA SOMNEZ  
AND ARIANA EUNJUNG CHA  
*The Washington Post*

Republicans on Sunday defended President Donald Trump amid mounting legal woes stemming from the special counsel probe led by Robert Mueller, with some brushing aside new court filings that detail previously unreported contacts between Russia and Trump's 2016 campaign and directly implicate the president in plans to buy women's lingerie.

In an interview on NBC News' "Meet the Press," Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., played down the alleged campaign finance violations detailed by prosecutors, arguing that such missteps should not be "over-criminalized."

"I personally think that if someone makes an error in filing paperwork or not categorizing it, it shouldn't be jail time; it ought to be a fine," Paul said.

He added that if campaign fi-

nance violations are aggressively prosecuted, "we're going to be once a banana republic, where every president gets prosecuted and every president gets thrown in jail when they're done with office."

The senator also contended that there was nothing illegal about Trump's efforts to build a hotel in Moscow during the 2016 campaign, so long as he didn't promise anything in exchange for it.

"This is pretty common, and I see no problem with someone running for president trying to build a hotel somewhere," Paul said.

Buzzfeed News reported last month that conversations about the project also included discussion of giving a \$50 million penthouse to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

On Friday, federal prosecutors filed new court papers implicating Trump in plans to buy the silence of women who might go

public with allegations of affairs with him. The documents also revealed that Michael Cohen, Trump's former personal attorney, told prosecutors about what appeared to be a previously unknown November 2015 contact with a Russian national who offered the Trump campaign "synergy on a government level."

Sen. Marco Rubio, R-Fla., said Sunday on CBS News' "Face the Nation" that "there's no reason to not stand by anybody in this moment," drawing a distinction between individuals who have been accused of crimes and pleaded guilty and others, presumably Trump. Rubio emphasized "the right of someone to argue that the evidence is not what you say it is."

"Just like no one is above the law in this country, no one is beneath it, either. ... I believe that Mr. Mueller's probe should continue and move forward unimpeded," he said.

Democrats and other Trump critics, meanwhile, argued that Friday's court filings are a dire sign for the president.

"The key phrase for me is 'directed' by President Trump," Sen. Angus King, I-Maine, who caucuses with Democrats, said on "Meet the Press."

He argued that the New York prosecutors' memo "implicated the president in a felony" but warned that it is still too early to talk about impeachment, which he described as a "last resort."

"We may get there, but we're not there now. ... If [Trump] is as innocent as he says he is, he ought to want this thing to go to completion," King said.

Rep. Jerrold Nadler, D-N.Y., who is poised to take over as chairman of the House Judiciary Committee in the new Congress, said that the alleged campaign finance violations "would be impeachable offenses" but that "whether they are important enough to justify

an impeachment is a different question."

"An impeachment is an attempt to, in effect, overturn or change the result of the last election. And you should do it only for very serious situations. So, that's always the question," Nadler said on CNN's "State of the Union."

Rep. Adam B. Schiff, D-Calif., the incoming chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, said on "Face the Nation" that "there's a very real prospect" that Trump may be indicted the day he leaves office and that he "may be the first president in quite some time to face the real prospect of jail time."

"We have been discussing the issue of pardons that the president may offer to people or dangle in front of people," Schiff said. "The bigger pardon question may come down the road as the next president has to determine whether to pardon Donald Trump."

## Comey: FBI probe of Russian interference initially looked at 4 Americans

By ERIC TUCKER, CHAD DAY  
AND MARY CLARE JALONICK  
*Associated Press*

WASHINGTON — The FBI's counterintelligence investigation into potential ties between the Trump campaign and Russia initially focused on four Americans and whether they were connected to Russian efforts to interfere in the 2016 presidential election, former FBI Director James Comey told lawmakers during hours of closed-door questioning.

Comey did not identify the Americans but said President Donald Trump, the Republican candidate at the time, was not among them.

He also told the House Judiciary Committee that, contrary to Trump's claims, he was "not friends in any social sense" with special counsel Robert Mueller, who is now leading the Russia investigation. Trump has repeatedly portrayed the men as exceptionally close as part of a long-running effort to undermine the investigation and paint the lead figures in the probe as united against him.

"I admire the heck out of the man, but I don't know his phone number. I've never been to his house. I don't know his children's names," said Comey, who added that he had "never hugged or kissed the man" despite the president's insistence otherwise. "A relief to my wife," he deadpanned.

The committee released a transcript of the interview on Saturday, just 24 hours after privately grilling the fired FBI chief about investigative decisions related to Hillary Clinton's email server and Trump's campaign and potential ties to Russia. Comey largely dodged questions connected to the current Mueller-led probe, including whether his May 2017 firing by Trump constituted



Former FBI Director James Comey, center, with his attorney, David Kelley, right, speaks to reporters after a day of testimony compelled by the GOP-led House Judiciary and Oversight committees on Capitol Hill in Washington on Friday.

obstruction of justice.

The Republican-led committee interviewed Comey as part of its investigation into FBI actions in 2016, a year when the bureau — in the heat of the presidential campaign — recommended additional charges for Clinton and opened an investigation into Russian interference in the election.

The questioning largely centered on well-covered territory from a Justice Department inspector general report, Comey's own book and interviews and hours of public testimony on Capitol Hill. But the former FBI chief also used the occasion to take aim at Trump's frequent barbs at the

criminal justice system, saying "we have become numb to lying and attacks on the rule of law by the president," as well as Trump's contention that it should be a crime for subjects "flip" and cooperate with investigators.

"It's a shocking suggestion coming from any senior official, no less the president. It's a critical and legitimate part of the entire justice system in the United States," Comey said.

In offering some details of the investigation's origins, Comey said it started in July 2016 with a look at "four Americans who had some connection to Mr. Trump" during that summer and whether

they were tied to "the Russian interference effort." The campaign itself, he said, was not investigated at that time.

He did not identify the Americans, though Mueller's investigation has made clear that by that time, there had already been outreach from Russian intermediaries to Trump associates — including a 2015 encounter revealed for the first time in a court filing Friday.

Also, by that time Democratic email accounts had been hacked by Russian intelligence and a Trump campaign foreign policy adviser, George Papadopoulos, had been told that Russians had

"dirt" on Clinton in the form of stolen emails.

That October, the FBI obtained a secret search warrant to monitor the communications of a Trump campaign adviser, Carter Page, on suspicions he was acting as a foreign agent — something he has denied.

Multiple Trump associates, including Papadopoulos, former national security adviser Michael Flynn and Trump's former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, have pleaded guilty to lying about their interactions with Russians during the campaign and presidential transition period. Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort's foreign dealings, including with an associate the U.S. says has ties to Russian intelligence, have also attracted law enforcement scrutiny.

Comey reiterated to lawmakers that it was the 2016 Papadopoulos encounter with a Russian intermediary in London that ignited the Russia investigation, rather than — as some Republicans have maintained — Democratic-funded opposition research compiled by a former British spy.

"It was weeks or months later that the so-called Steele dossier came to our attention," Comey said.

He said that by the time of his firing, the FBI had not come to a conclusion about whether the Trump campaign coordinated with Russia's efforts to sway the election.

And he insisted that the FBI would recover from the president's attacks on the bureau.

"The FBI will be fine. It will snap back, as will the rest of our institutions," Comey said.

"There will be short-term damage, which worries me a great deal, but in the long run, no politician, no president can, in a lasting way, damage those institutions."



## NATION

# Conn. school shooter seen as scornful of humanity

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — Documents from the investigation into the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut are shedding light on the gunman's anger, scorn for other people and deep social isolation in the years leading up to the shooting.

The documents that a court ordered Connecticut State Police to release include several writings by Adam Lanza, who gunned down 20 children and six educators on Dec. 14, 2012. He fatally shot his mother before driving to the school and ultimately killed himself.

Lanza wrote in what appears to be an online communication with a fellow gamer, "I incessantly have nothing other than scorn for humanity," the Hartford Courant reported. "I have been desperate to feel anything positive for someone for my entire life," he wrote.

The criminal investigation ended a year after the massacre without determining a motive. Thousands of pages of documents were released at the time, but in a lawsuit brought by the Courant, the Connecticut Supreme Court ruled in October that personal belongings of the shooter that had been withheld, including journals, also had to be made public because they were not exempt from open-record laws.

A report by the Connecticut child advocate said Lanza's severe and deteriorating mental health problems, his preoccupation with violence and access to his mother's weapons "proved a recipe for mass murder."

From the 10th grade, Lanza's mother kept him at home, where he was surrounded by an arsenal of firearms and spent long hours playing violent video games. His medical and school records included references to diagnoses of autism spectrum disorder, anxiety and obsessive compulsive disorder.

The newly released documents were seized by authorities during a search of Lanza's home. They include writings that had been described or summarized by previous investigative reports, such as the "Big Book of Granny," a book describing violence against children that he wrote with another boy in the fifth grade, and a spreadsheet listing mass killings dating to 1786.

On one handwritten list titled "Problems," Lanza details a range of grievances, including light that he is too bright and his hair touching his brother's towel.

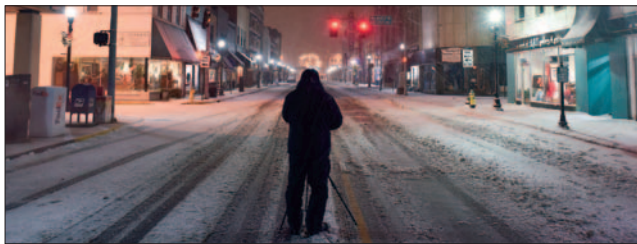
"I am unable to distinguish between my problems because I have too many," Lanza wrote.

In other writings, he rages against "fat people" doctors who touched him during physical examinations as a child and writes about pedophilia as a form of love.



TRAVIS LONG, THE (RALEIGH, N.C.) NEWS & OBSERVER/AP

A Duke Energy crew works to restore power in Raleigh, N.C., as snow continued to fall Sunday morning.



ANDREA YEAGUE, THE BRISTOL (Va.) HERALD-COURIER/AP

Dion Wiles takes advantage of the deserted streets to capture photos of the snow at the Bristol, Tenn., and Virginia state line early Sunday morning.

# Winter storm paralyzes South

Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A massive storm brought snow, sleet and freezing rain across a wide swath of the South on Sunday — causing dangerously icy roads, immobilizing snowfalls and power losses to hundreds of thousands of people.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper strongly urged residents to stay off the roads Sunday, asking drivers not to put lives of first responders needlessly at risk. Cooper said emergency crews, including the National Guard, had worked overnight to clear traffic accidents on major roadways. One tractor-trailer ran off a road and into a river, Cooper said.

"Stay put if you can. Wrap a few presents, decorate the tree, watch some football."

Governors and local officials in several states declared emergencies ahead of the storm crossing several Southern states. It is hitting portions of North Carolina and Virginia particularly hard.

Officials have warned residents to prepare emergency kits and stay off roads in affected areas.

"Virginians should take all necessary precautions to ensure they are prepared for winter weather

**'Stay put if you can. Wrap a few presents, decorate the tree, watch some football.'**

**Roy Cooper**  
North Carolina governor

storm impacts," said Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam.

The National Weather Service said a "prolonged period of snow" began late Saturday and would last until Monday in the region, with the heaviest snow expected in northwest North Carolina and southern Virginia. Forecasters have said some mountain areas of North Carolina could get up to 12 inches of snow or more.

Heavy rains also were expected elsewhere in other parts of the South, creating possible floods in coastal areas.

More than 300,000 power outages were reported across the region, with the majority of those — about 180,000 — in North Carolina, according to poweroutage.us. More than 82,000 were without power in South Carolina, while a total of about 75,000 outages were reported across Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi.

Charlotte Douglas International Airport in North Carolina, the sixth-busiest airport in the country, said American Airlines planned to reduce its operations starting Saturday evening, with more than 1,000 flights canceled on Sunday.

American has also issued a travel alert for nine airports throughout the Carolinas, Tennessee and Virginia, meaning passengers may be able to change travel plans without a fee.

Travelers were advised to check their flight status before heading to the airport. Cancellations were reported on flights from as far away as the Midwest.

Signs of a pending monster snowfall were prevalent. Traffic crews treated roads ahead of the storm. Amtrak canceled or modified some routes because of the storm, and many hardware stores sold out of ice melt.

# Voter fraud like movie script in Miss. town

**By Emily Wagster Pettus**  
Associated Press

CANTON, Miss. — In a town that calls itself the Hollywood of Mississippi, people say for years they've been hearing tales of dirty politics worthy of a movie script, like campaigns buying votes with cash or beer.

But it wasn't until the past few days when the former police chief, a former fire chief and some others were arrested on voter fraud charges that locals realized just how deep the problems might go.

"It's always been kind of fishy business dealing with elections in Canton, Miss.," said resident Laselven Harris, 21, who is black and worked in the 2017 city campaign for a white Republican who lost the race for mayor.

Six people were arrested Thursday and one was arrested Friday after a grand jury indicted them on a variety of election fraud charges. They face accusations of bribing voters, improperly helping people fill out absentee ballots, voting despite being convicted of disqualifying felonies and voting even though they lived outside the city or voting district.

The indictments came at a time when a disputed North Carolina congressional race is bringing attention to alleged election misdeeds nationwide.

Among those arrested was Vicki McNeil, a former Canton police chief who now serves on the Board of Aldermen. She faces four counts of voter fraud. She is alleged to have illegally helped people cast absentee ballots when she was running for re-election. McNeil declined to comment to reporters and was released on \$4,000 bail.

A former Canton fire chief, Cary Johnson, was arrested Friday. He is accused of trying to influence a voter by promising beer and offering money to two others to sway their votes.

The heaviest charges are against Courtney Rainey, 38, who is appointed to the city council board and is Canton's director of human and cultural needs. Rainey was indicted on 10 counts of voter fraud, two counts of conspiring to commit voter fraud, two counts of voting by an unqualified person and one count of intimidating a witness.

The indictments allege Rainey paid four people for their votes in cash and one with a Walmart gift card. A lawyer for Rainey didn't immediately respond to a phone call and email seeking comment. Rainey is free on \$15,000 bail.

Canton has a population of just under 13,000. About 70 percent of the city's residents are black and 24 percent are white. The mayor and six of the seven aldermen elected in 2017 are black; the other alderman is white.

## NATION

# Dog that survived Calif. wildfire guarded its home

By DAISY NGUYEN  
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A dog that survived the catastrophic wildfire in Northern California apparently protected the ruins of his home for almost a month until his owner returned.

Madison was there waiting when Andrea Gaylord was allowed back to check on her burned property in Paradise last week.

Gaylord fled when the Nov. 8 fire broke out and decimated the town of 27,000.

An animal rescuer who responded to Madison's request to check on Madison first spotted the male Anatolian shepherd mix several days later.

Shayla Sullivan said the outdoor guard dog was apprehensive and kept his distance. Sullivan left food and water for him regularly until Gaylord got back on Wednesday.

She also helped locate Madison's brother, Miguel, another Anatolian shepherd mix that was



**Left:** Madison, an Anatolian shepherd dog that apparently guarded his burned home for nearly a month after the fire that devastated the town of Paradise, Calif., is reunited with his owner, Andrea Gaylord, on Friday as she was allowed back to check on her burned property. **Right:** Madison lies within the burned ruins of the property.



PHOTOS BY SHAYLA SULLIVAN/AP

taken to a shelter 85 miles away in the confusing aftermath of the wildfire.

"If [the evacuees] can't be there I'm going to be and I'm not going to give up on their animal

until they can get back in," Sullivan said.

The dogs reunited Friday when Gaylord came back to the property with Miguel and brought Madison his favorite treat: a box

of Wheat Thin crackers.

Gaylord told news station ABC10 she couldn't ask for a better animal.

"Imagine the loyalty of hanging in in the worst of circum-

stances and being here waiting," she said.

"Their instinctual job is to watch the flocks, and we're part of them," Gaylord said about her dogs. "It's a comforting feeling."

## SC requesting more hurricane relief funds

By MEG KINNARD  
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — South Carolina's congressional delegation will be able to ask for more funds to provide relief following Hurricane Florence, thanks to a move by the state's governor.

In a letter obtained Saturday by The Associated Press, Gov. Henry McMaster told U.S. Rep. Tom Rice that he was increasing the estimate for community development block grant relief from \$108 million to \$435 million at Rice's request.

Thousands of residents along the coasts of North and South Carolina were evacuated as Florence slowly swirled in the Atlantic Ocean in September.

As the storm gradually came ashore near the border of the two states, Florence dumped days' worth of rain on the Carolinas, leaving widespread flooding in which dozens of people were killed.

Officials initially estimated Florence did more than \$1 billion in damage to South Carolina, a number based on assessments made while catastrophic flooding was still ongoing in many areas.

In a letter last month to the state's congressional delegation, McMaster said a new, \$607 million damage figure was based on actual damage reports and on-the-ground assessments by federal, state and local officials.

That figure included about \$125 million in agricultural damage and \$111 million in flood insurance-related claims.

The increased block grant request in McMaster's letter Saturday brought the total of estimated storm damage to more than \$930 million. It also allows the opportunity for more relief for homeowners in a federal floodplain area who have no flood insurance. McMaster wrote that an appropriation request should note the increase is "in response to the number of homes affected by Hurricane Florence and the substantive flooding that followed."

South Carolina  
Gov. Henry  
McMaster

response to the number of homes affected by Hurricane Florence and the substantive flooding that followed." In his earlier letter to the delegation, McMaster noted that more than 2,000 homes were damaged by hurricane-related flooding in counties in the northeastern portion of South Carolina.

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## NATION



KEVIN HAGEN/AP

A model wears a coral outfit from the Marc Jacobs spring 2019 collection during New York's Fashion Week. Pantone Color Institute picked Living Coral as its 2019 color of the year.

# Living Coral named 2019 color of year

By LEANNE ITALIE  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — It's the color of underwater reefs hanging on for dear life. Of the sky at dusk. Of some of the latest iPhones and the latest looks on the runways of Marc Jacobs and other top fashion designers. Living Coral has been chosen by the Pantone Color Institute as its 2019 color of the year.

Can a color be convivial?

Laurie Pressman, the company's vice president, considers this saturated orange base with a golden undertone not only warm and welcoming but versatile and life-affirming. It energizes with a softer edge than, say, its pastel and neon color cousins.

"With everything that's going on today, we're looking for those humanizing qualities because we're seeing online life dehumanizing a lot of things," Pressman told The Associated Press ahead of last week's annual color unveiling.

"We're looking toward those colors that bring nourishment and the comfort and familiarity that make us feel good," she said. "It's not too heavy. We want to play. We want to be uplifted."

But do we want to run toward this color of grandmothers?

Pressman also sees a retro vibe to Living Coral in the same way a softer version of the 2018 pick, Ultra Violet, is the shade of some gray heads when hair toners bring on a turn

to purple.

"It's the emotional nourishment. It's a big hug," she said of Living Coral.

How important color analysis is when weighed against, well, the rest of the world is in the eye of the beholder.

Pantone is a for-profit enterprise that forecasts color trends, analyzes the psychology of color and advises companies on color for product packaging and brand identity.

Its wares come with price tags, but nearly 20 years of choosing colors of the year has been a useful marketing strategy and free, free, free.

Living Coral is ascending, Pressman said, at a time when bleaching due to climate change continues to rob actual coral reefs of their rainbows.

It's a color that seems to work for everybody, across the gender spectrum in apparel and across segments, from art and housewares to home interiors and industrial design.

The color also points to a long and often painful slog over the last decade or so through financial market scares and political crises to environmental chaos and the rise of social media, where saturated color presides, Pressman said.

"We're seeing so much more saturated color," she said. "That's the influence of social media because people want things to stand out."

"This is definitely a color you see on so-

cial media."

Living Coral is vivifying, but it's "not so overpowering and in your face," she said. "It's bright enough and engaging."

Officially, Living Coral is Pantone 16-1546.

Ever wonder what those Pantone numbers are all about? Well, they're broken into three pairs and refer to a color's level of lightness, hue and "chroma," on various scales.

What, you ask, is chroma? It's a description that combines hue and saturation. A set of letters after the numbers indicate the material or substance upon which the color was printed or otherwise placed, such as dyed cotton or paper.

Coming up with such color standards is one of those other things Pantone does when it's not announcing colors of the year.

Before Ultra Violet was chosen for 2018, there was Greenery the year before. In 2016, Pantone picked a duo for the first time: Serenity (a baby blue) and Rose Quartz (a light pink).

The selection process spans the year. Pantone's experts travel the world in search of color influences that gained momentum from the entertainment industry and traveling art collections to fashion and beauty trends, travel destinations and specialty shows for design and decor.

## Historic 1920s Delta Queen riverboat can cruise again

By JIM SALTER  
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — After a decade in dock, the historic 1920s-era Delta Queen riverboat will cruise again.

President Donald Trump signed legislation on Tuesday authorizing the 285-foot-long riverboat immortalized in poems and songs to cruise again along the Mississippi and several other rivers.

The Delta Queen was sidelined in 2008 by a federal law prohibiting overnight excursions on wooden vessels. Both U.S. senators from Missouri — Democrat Claire McCaskill and Republican Roy Blunt — co-sponsored a bill to allow the exemption, which requires modifications to the wooden portions of the vessel, most of which are cabins and public areas. The hull is already steel.

"Today marks the beginning of a new chapter in American steamboat history," Leah Ann Ingram, vice president of the Delta Queen Steamboat Co., said in a statement. "This was the first big step in returning the Delta Queen to the waterways, where she belongs."

The Delta Queen began operation in 1927. Passengers have included presidents Herbert Hoover, Harry Truman and Jimmy Carter. It served as a naval ship during World War II and is designated as the American Historic Landmark.

The Delta Queen Steamboat Co. is based in Kimmswick, Mo., near St. Louis, but the boat is undergoing repairs in Houma, La. The upgrade will include replac-



JOHN RAWLSTON, CHATTANOOGA (TENN.) TIMES FREE PRESS/AP

The Delta Queen riverboat, on Sept. 25, 2013, is moored at Coolidge Park on in downtown Chattanooga, Tenn.

ing boilers original to the boat, along with generators, plumbing, the steam line and heating and air conditioning. The total cost is estimated at \$10 million to \$12 million.

The company expects to begin

three-, five- and seven-day cruises on the Mississippi, Ohio, Tennessee, Cumberland, Kanawha, Arkansas and Illinois rivers in 2020. The Delta Queen is expected to visit more than 80 ports each year, including St. Louis,

Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Minneapolis, Minnesota, Louisville, Kentucky and Chattanooga, Tenn.

Blunt said more than 170 jobs are expected to be created in Kimmswick and cited the benefit

of many of the cruises beginning and ending there.

"This important part of our nation's history will create jobs and strengthen our state's growing tourism industry," Blunt said in a statement.



## SCIENCE



DUSAN VRANIC/AP

A man rides a bicycle in June 2014 through a part of Homs, Syria, that was devastated by the country's civil war.

And climate change has altered global politics.

Numerous studies have said it was a factor in record-setting drought in Syria — one of several causes of the country's civil war that triggered a massive refugee crisis.

The military calls this a multiplier effect. Problems combine, pile up and worsen each other. Climate change does that, even in matters of national security, said Richard Alley, a climate scientist at Pennsylvania State University.

"Climate change didn't cause the Syrian civil war." But in a place that's unhappy, a drought arrives, farmers move to an overcrowded city and problems multiply and lead to war, Alley said. "It was the straw that broke the camel's back."

Conflict over climate change impacts is not confined to Syria, said University of Oklahoma meteorology professor Renee McPherson. It also applies to thousands of Nigerians "killed in conflicts between farmers and cattle herders who are competing for diminishing water supplies and fertile lands," she said.

**'It's like a domino effect. You go three steps backward and you realize that climate change was part of the equations.'**

Camila Mora  
University of  
Hawaii geographer

"It's like a domino effect," said University of Hawaii geographer Camilo Mora. "You go three steps backward and you realize that climate change was part of the equations."

Mora scoured scientific literature to see how often global warming influenced some of society's ills and came up with 467 examples. Australian underground electrical transmission wires, for example, short-circuited because of heat, and planes were grounded in Arizona because hotter air is thinner, making takeoffs and landings more difficult.

"The laundry list of cases is just mind-blowing," Mora said.

A changing planet has messed with the timing of nature.

"There are hundreds of changes of the flowering of plants, the leafing out of trees, the migrations of birds" that can be attributed to climate change, said Boston University biologist Richard Primack. And when that happens, sometimes it creates "mismatches."

In Europe, for instance, oak trees now leaf earlier. Caterpillars hatch and eat leaves earlier. But birds migrate based on hours of daylight, while insects emerge according to temperature, said climate scientist Jennifer Francis, of the Woods Hole Research Center in Falmouth, Mass. So the birds show up late for dinner and may have little to eat.

And in maple trees, the "whiplash" between cold and hot weather is "screwing up the sap flow," Francis said.

A study found that the weather changes, including drier conditions, and more nitrogen from human activities are stunting maple growth, which can affect syrup production.

Global warming has changed how some male whales attract females.

Jean-Yves Royer, a geophysicist at the French National Centre for Scientific Research, and colleagues compared male baleen whale songs from 2002 to 2015 and found the sound frequency changed in areas where icebergs melt due to warmer water and air.

When icebergs melt, that's the loudest sound around, he said.

So the whales deepen their song, Royer said, to penetrate through the sound of melting ice.

# Whale songs and war

## A look at the less talked about impacts of climate change

BY SETH BORENSTEIN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON  
Near Antarctica, whales are singing in deeper tones to cut through the noise of melting icebergs. In California, a big college football rivalry game was postponed because of smoky air from wildfires. And Alaskan shellfish were struck by an outbreak of warm water bacteria.

That's global warming in action. Climate change is more than heat waves, hurricanes, floods, droughts, sea level rise, melting ice and ever-increasing temperatures.

Sometimes global warming has a hand — directly or indirectly — in something quirky, such as the pitch change in five baleen whale populations in the Southern Ocean.

It can be annoying, such as having to reschedule the big game between California and Stanford, or seeing plants bloom too early in the spring.

More often the influence of climate change is ominous, like oceans becoming more acidic and eating away at clam shells and coral reefs, which already got bleached by warmer waters.

Or even out-of-place and dangerous, like the *Vibrio* bacteria outbreak in Alaska or once-tropical, disease-carrying mosqui-



JEAN-YVES ROYER, CNRS-UBO-IUEM GEOSCIENCES OCEAN/AP

A fin whale, foreground, and a tabular drifting iceberg are seen near Antarctica in January 2010.

toes arriving in Canada.

It could be a bit unexpected, like a study linking warmer climate to a rise in winter crimes in the United States.

Northeastern University criminologist James Fox said that actually makes sense because more people outside means more opportunity for foul play.

## NATION



The Tastee Diner in Laurel, Md., has been serving customers for four decades.

PHOTOS BY KATHERINE FREY  
The Washington Post

# Pot luck diner

## Historic Md. eatery may close to make way for a marijuana dispensary

By DANA HEDGPETH  
The Washington Post

At the lunch counter of the Tastee Diner in Laurel, Md., waitresses and cooks recognize the regulars taking a seat on the blue stools next to the gold-speckled countertop.

"George! Where you been?" waitress and cashier Donna Rock asked as she cleaned a booth. "Dead? Jail?"

Rock hadn't seen the elderly, white-haired man — one of her most loyal customers — in a month. He quietly slipped coffee from a 1950s-style mug, then responded.

"Jail," he said, eliciting chuckles.

It's that connection of humor and compassion, developed over four decades between customers and staff, that residents fear will be lost in a plan that would turn the diner into a medical marijuana dispensary. The diner's longtime owner is selling the site to a Bethesda, Md.-area company that will put pot on the menu.

Preservationists want to stop the deal, saying the establishment's stainless steel design is one of a handful of existing exteriors made by Comac, a manufacturer in the 1950s known for making diners with stainless steel or aluminum exteriors. Regular customers, meanwhile, are sad to see it go.

"It's a dependable habit," said Bruce Juba, 72, a retired U.S. Treasury employee, as he sat in a booth eating beef stew.

He and his wife have been coming to the diner a few times a week for 40 years. They remember when some of the waitresses were new mothers decades ago. Now, they have grandchildren.

"You don't find a place like that anymore that's got continuity, especially in an area that's so transient," Juba said.

City leaders are expected to decide Tuesday whether to allow the marijuana

dispensary company, Pure Hana Synergy, to operate at the site. Francesca DeMauro-Palmeri, the company's founder and vice president of marketing, said the deal is contingent upon the city's approval.

She looked at more than 200 sites in Maryland after getting a license to open a cannabis dispensary, and the Laurel diner's location met the state's criteria, she said.

If approved, construction is likely to start early next year, with an opening in June. It would become one of about 70 medical marijuana dispensaries in the state. Those dispensaries recorded about \$96 million in sales from December 2017 through November this year, according to state officials.

The possible closure of the diner, which is open 24 hours every day of the week, has left employees nervous and customers nostalgic.

There used to be a lumber yard nearby where a MARC commuter train parking lot now sits. There were men's and women's clothing stores and a furniture store along Main Street, which officials are trying to revitalize.

Through it all, the diner has remained.

Customers said they enjoy seeing the same staff each visit, as well as the diner's memorabilia. A plaque near the kitchen reads, "Don't criticize the coffee, you may be old and weak someday." A bumper sticker on a wall says, "Smokers are voters too!"

The diner's owner, Gene Wilkes, has operated the Laurel spot since the 1970s. He also owns two other Tastee Diners in Maryland — one in Silver Spring and another in Bethesda. Wilkes didn't return multiple requests seeking comment.

Longtime customers and employees

argue the Laurel location has greater historical significance than the others.

The current rendition of the Tastee Diner is the third at the Laurel site. It was originally known as the Laurel Diner in the 1930s. In the 1950s, the building was replaced by a structure that was designed to look like an old trolley car and made by New Jersey-based Comac Diner Co.

Wilkes took over the diner in the mid-1970s, locals said, and renamed it the Tastee Diner.

Preservationists said they're worried the diner's unique features — both inside and outside — will be damaged or destroyed with the debut of a marijuana dispensary at the site.

"We're a historic town, and the diner is part of that," said Karen Lubieniecki, chairwoman of the Laurel Historical Society. "Plus, diners are cool. They build new ones and make them look like old-style diners, and here we have one that looks old but they want to destroy it."

Richard Friend, who grew up in Laurel and runs a blog on the city's history, started an online petition to save the diner that has more than 2,200 signatures. Preservationists said they're not against the owner selling to the dispensary company but would prefer the building be moved to a vacant spot along Main Street and either preserved or run by another restaurateur.

Laurel Mayor Craig A. Moe said he's not interested. He said the vacant site where preservationists want to put the diner is likely to become a parking lot.

Moe said the city came to an agreement with Pure Hana executives that ensures the building's exterior and memorabilia will be donated to the local historical society.

Still, there's a sense of loss over the diner's likely closing.

Friend, 46, a graphic artist who now lives about 40 miles away in Centerville, Va., drives to the diner on weekends for scrambled eggs, toast and coffee that costs about \$7. He remembers going to the Tastee Diner as a kid with his parents.

When his father became ill with cancer last year and needed treatment at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, his mother didn't like driving so they met at the diner. The staff kept an eye on his truck while they drove another to the hospital.

After his father died, Friend said, he received a sympathy card signed by diner employees. "That's just something that doesn't happen anymore," he said. "It's a special place. People care. It's a lost art of doing business."

Most of the diner's roughly 30 staffers, some of whom live at a nearby motel, have worked there for years. Rock, the waitress and cashier, said workers are anxious but not angry at Wilkes for selling after decades of running three restaurants.

"The building's a piece of aluminum," Rock said. "Most of us are wondering where we're going to go."

Jeff Dudley, 62, who works as a shift manager, said he remembers coming to the Tastee Diner on special occasions with his family. After 20 years working elsewhere, he came back to work.

"This place is full of old stories, but nobody wants to hear them anymore," he said. As his eyes welled with tears, he added, "This is home."

**"This place is full of old stories, but nobody wants to hear them anymore."**

Jeff Dudley  
Tastee Diner shift manager



Far left: Bruce and Anne Juba have been coming to the Tastee Diner regularly for 40 years. Left: Donna Rock, who was off work but still helping out, gives a kiss to George Jones, a regular she hasn't seen recently.

## WORLD

# Paris cleans up as pressure builds

By ANGELA CHARLTON  
Associated Press

PARIS — Paris tourist sites reopened, workers cleaned up broken glass and shop owners tried to put the city on its feet again Sunday, a day after running battles between “yellow vest” protesters and police that left at least 71 injured in the French capital and caused widespread damage in cities around France.

The man at the focus of protesters' anger, President Emmanuel Macron, broke his silence to tweet his appreciation for the police overnight. However, pressure mounted on him to propose new solutions to calm the anger dividing France.

Macron will address the nation “at the very beginning of the week,” government spokesman Benjamin Griveaux said Sunday, without specifying a day.

The economy minister lamented the damage to the economy.

“This is a catastrophe for commerce, it's a catastrophe for our economy,” Bruno Le Maire said Sunday while visiting merchants around the Saint Lazare train station, among areas hit by vandalism as the pre-Christmas shopping season got underway.

After the fourth Saturday of nationwide protests by a grass-roots movement with broadening support, officials said they understood the depth of the crisis. Le Maire said it was a social and democratic crisis as well as a “crisis of the nation” with “terri-

torial fractures.”

Griveaux, speaking on LCI TV station, said he was “sure [Macron] will know how to find the path to the hearts of the French, speak to their hearts.”

The president must also speak to their pocketbooks. Among myriad demands voiced by protesters, measures to increase buying power were a bottom line.

The number of injured in Paris and nationwide was down Saturday from protest riots a week ago, and most of the capital remained untouched. Still, TV footage broadcast around the world of the violence in Paris neighborhoods popular with tourists has tarnished the country's image.

A number of tourists at the Eiffel Tower, which reopened Sunday after closing Saturday, said they were avoiding the Champs-Élysées, Paris' main avenue that is lined with shops and cafes and normally a magnet for foreign visitors.

France deployed some 89,000 police but still failed to deter the determined protesters. Some 125,000 yellow vests took to the streets Saturday around France with a bevy of demands related to high living costs and a sense that Macron favors the elite and is trying to modernize the French economy too fast.

Some 1,220 people were taken into custody around France, the Interior Ministry said Sunday — a roundup the scale of which the country hasn't seen in years. French police frisked protest-



CHRISTOPHE ENA/AP

**A worker clears debris on Sunday at a bank in Paris whose windows were smashed during recent protests.**

ers at train stations around the country, confiscating everything from heavy metal pentagon balls to tennis rackets — anything that could be used as a weapon.

Thierry Paul Valette, who helps coordinate yellow vest protesters who come to Paris, said the president must announce concrete measures to quell the fury.

Wind and rain pummeled Paris overnight, complicating efforts to clean up debris left by protesters, who threw anything they could at police and set whatever they could on fire. Protesters ripped off the plywood protecting Parisian store windows and threw flares and other projectiles. French riot

police repeatedly repelled them with tear gas and water cannon.

Parisians lamented the damage.

“What happened yesterday and the Saturday before, it was unforgettable,” said Jean-Pierre Duquesne.

Police and protesters also clashed in other French cities, notably Marseille, Toulouse and Bordeaux, and in neighboring Belgium. Some protesters took aim Saturday at the French border with Italy, creating huge traffic jams. Some 135 people were injured nationwide, including the 71 in Paris.

## Troops kill 3 rebels in Kashmir gunbattle

SRINAGAR, India — Indian troops killed three rebels on the outskirts of disputed Kashmir's main city Sunday, ending a nearly 18-hour gun battle, officials said.

Indian paramilitary spokesman Sanjay Sharma said Indian troops had surrounded a neighborhood Saturday on a tip that militants were hiding there. As the troops began conducting searches, militants opened gunfire, triggering intense fighting in which three combatants were killed, he said.

Police identified one of the slain militants as a teenage boy who had joined rebel ranks in August.

Residents said government forces blasted at least five houses with explosives during the fighting, a common tactic employed by Indian troops during counterinsurgency operations in Kashmir.

## Deadly riot sparked by pepper spray can

ROME — Italian police investigation of a deadly disco stampede said Sunday they found a pepper spray can and were questioning dozens of witnesses Sunday following accounts by concertgoers that a teenage boy had sprayed an irritating substance, triggering the mad rush by the crowd to flee.

It wasn't known if the can found was the one whose spray apparently set off the stampede about 1 a.m. Saturday in a crowd awaiting a rapper's performance in the Lanterna Azzurra (Blue Lantern) disco in Corinaldo, a small town in Italy, the Carabinieri paramilitary police commander of Ancona province, Col. Cristian Carrozzo, told reporters.

Five teens, all juveniles, and a woman who had accompanied her 11-year-old daughter to the concert, died in the crush of fleeing concertgoers who toppled over a railing atop a cement ramp outside an exit.

Seven of the more than 50 people injured in the stampede remained in critical condition Sunday, doctors said.

## Police find body they believe is British tourist

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — New Zealand police said Sunday they found a body they believe to be that of missing 22-year-old British tourist Grace Millane.

Police said the body was in a forested area about 33 feet from the side of the road in the Waitakere Ranges near Auckland.

Millane has been missing since Dec. 1, and failed to contact her family on her birthday Dec. 2.

On Saturday, a 26-year-old man was charged with murder in her case after he was detained for questioning. He is due to make his first court appearance on Monday.

Her family was surprised and worried when she didn't contact them on her birthday or get in touch on the days that followed.

From The Associated Press

# UN increases S. Sudan patrols after spike in rapes

By SAM MEDNICK  
Associated Press

NHIALDIU, South Sudan — Wrapping an arm around her stomach, the young woman hung her head and recounted the day in early November when she and a friend were bound, dragged into the bush and raped by four men with guns.

“My body hasn't been the same since,” the 18-year-old said.

The men attacked during an hours-long walk home to the South Sudan village of Nhialdiu.

“I was crying and screaming but I was so far from the village that no one could hear me,” she told The Associated Press, which doesn't identify survivors of sexual assault.

Shock and outrage followed when the medical charity Doctors Without Borders announced that 125 women and girls had been raped, whipped and clubbed over 10 days last month in a dramatic spike in sexual violence.

The United Nations secretary-general said.

They were attacked as they made the long walk to a food distribution site in Bentiu, in Unity state.

Rape has been used widely as a weapon in South Sudan. Even after a peace deal was signed in September to end a five-year civil



SAM MEDNICK/AP

**U.N. peacekeepers move through the village of Nhialdiu on Friday, part of an increase in patrols since a spike in reports of violent attacks on the road from Bentiu to Nhialdiu in South Sudan.**

war that killed nearly 400,000 people, humanitarians have warned of higher rates of sexual assault as growing numbers of desperate people try to reach aid. While some aid groups have quietly questioned whether all 125 people in the Doctors With Borders report were raped, they do not dispute that the problem has become grave.

The 18-year-old was not included in that report, and the real toll of sexual assault is not known.

Several local women said the violence is escalating.

Nyalgwon Mol Moon said she was held at gunpoint last month while two men in civilian clothes, their faces covered, stole her clothes, her shoes and the milk she meant to sell at market. Standing beside the road, pointing to her borrowed, oversized sneakers, she said she now tries to take alternative routes on her weekly walks to Bentiu.

She has no other choice. Food

in Nhialdiu and nearby villages is scarce. Most people could not cultivate last season because of fighting and too much rain. Many rely on monthly aid from the U.N.'s World Food Program.

That means a walk of almost 24 miles to Bentiu town. Unable to carry the heavy rations back in one trip, most women leave some behind with relatives and make several journeys throughout the month.

Some said they make the 11-hour trek at least six times.

Alarmed by the sexual assaults, the World Food Program said it is prepared to bring distribution points closer to communities. The U.N. is now clearing the road from Bentiu to Nhialdiu of debris to make access easier.

South Sudan's government has acknowledged the assaults occurred in areas it controls, on the road between Nhialdiu and Bentiu and in surrounding villages. But it blames them on “unregulated youth” who fought alongside warring factions before the peace deal, Laraka Machar Turaol, deputy governor of Northern Liech state that was once part of Unity, told the AP.

The U.N., which has increased patrols, is pushing South Sudan's government to take more responsibility.



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## OPINION

## Media still don't get Trump Country

By GARY ÄBERNATHY

Special To The Washington Post

When Donald Trump won the presidency in November 2016, it was a shock to pollsters and most of the media. Many of the nation's most influential news outlets quickly acknowledged they had missed something and pledged to reconfigure their approach.

Some newspapers, such as The Washington Post, expanded the voices on their editorial pages (thank you) and, for a while, cable news producers were regularly scouring the heartland for a different point of view. But by and large, the self-reflection and middle America outreach from a reporting standpoint diminished, often reverting to occasional drop-ins and special assignments.

Two years into Trump's presidency, the standard operating procedure of most of the media has represented a retreat to pre-2016 bubbles. Reporting and analysis continue to reflect the limited perspective of the left while the other half of America is ignored or, worse, subjected to ridicule and lecturing. Americans — left, right and middle — remain in desperate need of a more comprehensive and balanced informational narrative across the media spectrum.

Before the sad passing of former President George H.W. Bush, the probe of special counsel Robert Mueller — ostensibly into alleged Trump-Russian collusion — again dominated the headlines. A flurry of activity and smoke signals from the Mueller camp led to cries in the media that the Trump presidency was about to receive a devastating, possibly ruinous, blow.

In Trump stronghold states the nation, however, the latest developments were regarded with no more alarm than the first allegations of collusion more than two years ago. As far as the president's millions of supporters are concerned, allegations of

collusion with Russia began as political revenge by the left for Trump's impolite interruption of the ascension of the first female president, and will end as political revenge. They will see whatever Mueller alleges and documents through the prism of the suspect way it began.

The media, outside of Fox News, give short shrift to Americans who hold such views, or focus their stories on what they see as the ongoing ignorance of Trump voters, such as examinations of how the president's policies are harmful to the parts of the country that support him. It's another way of calling them stupid, such as the frequent reminders that voters with college degrees supported Hillary Clinton, while the less educated voted for Trump.

Meanwhile, in southern Ohio, one of Trump's strongest regions, his supposedly duped supporters have noticed that gas prices hover just north of \$2 a gallon (and, in my town, dipping a few cents south of that benchmark), the unemployment rate remains historically low, and economic forecasters "expect Ohio shoppers to increase holiday spending by 3.2 percent over last year, as consumer confidence continues to soar," according to a University of Cincinnati Economics Center forecast.

The simple inhabitants of Trump Country see a president who keeps campaign promises on court appointments, trade renegotiations, illegal immigration and deregulation. But they don't know what's good for them, according to many reporters and pundits. They even vote against their own interests, the media critics claim, as though they can understand the interests of Trump voters from afar.

It is likely the media disconnect is about to get worse, with breathless wall-to-wall coverage of Mueller's final report and Democrats taking control of the House of Representatives in January, replete with endless hearings and even moves toward impeachment. Editorials and columns will suggest or demand that Trump resign. But the attacks will merely solidify the presi-

dent's base against common, long-standing opinions, and our political gulf will grow.

For his part, Trump is conducting a unique experiment in national politics: not necessarily a healthy one, but one that worked in 2016 and was arguably effective in his first midterm, when a president's party typically gets pummeled.

Earlier this year, some analysts said a "blue wave" could result in Democrats not only capturing the House, but possibly the Senate, too. Indeed, Democrats picked up 40 seats to gain control in the House, but the GOP actually gained two seats to expand its Senate majority. Compare this with a real "red wave" in President Barack Obama's first midterm in 2010, when the GOP picked up 63 seats in the House and six in the Senate, and it's hard to argue Trump's 2018 strategy wasn't effective — aided by negative media coverage that unwittingly helped Trump achieve his objective.

In a more perfect media world, straight reporting from our most esteemed news outlets wouldn't — couldn't — be used to energize anyone's base, Republican or Democrat. Today, the media too often become the story instead of merely reporting the story. A less partisan news media could do much to help unify and heal America.

Journalists would be well-served to re-engage over the next two years on the mission they briefly pursued after the 2016 election, discovering and covering all of America — every day, every week, without bias or judgment. If nothing else, such an endeavor might help mitigate in November 2020 the shock that was on display from reporters and commentators when the results trickled in on Nov. 8, 2016 — an outcome they couldn't comprehend, and still, for the most part, don't.

Gary Abernathy, a contributing columnist for The Washington Post, is a freelance writer and former newspaper editor based in Hillsboro, Ohio.

## Trump shouldn't gloat over France's yellow vests

By LIONEL LAURENT

Bloomberg News

Donald Trump is enjoying Emmanuel Macron's struggles with the gilets jaunes. In a recent tweet, he said the French had come around to his skepticism about the Paris climate change agreement and the cost of fighting global warming.

The billionaire U.S. president should be less smug. What started as a howl of anger about fuel duties is fast morphing into a broader movement to get the rich to pay their fair share of taxes overall. The same forces that are now pressuring Macron to reverse his tax breaks for the wealthy — which he's resisting could easily take root in Trump's America or Brexit Britain. Justifiably so, if inequality is any guide.

Support for more taxes on the rich is growing, and not just in France, which is one of the few developed economies to have a wealth tax. According to recent polls, the vast majority of Americans favor higher taxes for the rich, as do Brits. As the yellow jackets have shown, this impulse for a fairer social contract goes way beyond the political left. The idea of taxing top earners' capital as well as income is becoming more palatable, according to a 2017 paper for the Washington Center for Equitable Growth based on U.S. surveys. This is new.

The paper found that American attitudes

lean toward a wealth tax of about 1 percent, similar to French leaders' Thomin Piketty's call for a 1 or 2 percent tax on global wealth. Piketty has criticized Macron's bid to ease the load on his richest compatriots, but he also acknowledges that demands for a fairer distribution are a global phenomenon and need to be tackled as such. If that's the case, it's not just French politicians who should fret. Trump's own tax reforms have done little for American workers.

Indeed, it's the U.S. that's experienced the most remarkable rise in developed-world income inequality in the past 35 years, according to OECD data, with the top 1 percent now taking home about a quarter of the pay. It was less than 10 percent in 1980. Over the same time-frame, the U.K.'s richest saw their income share rise about 10 percentage points to nearly 15 percent. The same measure in France has barely budged from less than 10 percent.

Wealth inequality is harder to measure, but it has narrowed in France since 2000 while increasing rapidly in the U.S., according to the OECD. The top 1 percent of rich Americans now have about 40 percent of the country's net wealth.

The tough thing about tackling this is making sure wealth taxes don't just become an expression of the "politics of envy." We need incentives to create riches. But we also need to put them to productive use, rather than hoarding assets in the as-

sumption they'll rise in value. If I own land or property that's set back by taxes and generating income, a wealth tax of 1 percent might encourage me to use it to generate returns above this level, or sell it to someone who will.

That, in his defense, is what Macron has tried to do. France's old wealth tax brought in more revenue but there were myriad carve-outs, opt-outs and exemptions. It also acted as an incentive for people to take their assets abroad. By narrowing the tax to just property, Macron has stuck to things that can't be moved out of the country in the same way as stock and bond portfolios and other investments. That's a spur for wealthy individuals to consider repatriating to France, a serious consideration as Paris tries to seize advantage of the City of London's Brexit wounds.

As clumsy as Macron's tax reforms have been, it's hardly as if he's suddenly embraced a tax-light economy or a sudden conversion to "trickle-down" economics. France remains a big taxer, a big spender and a big redistributor.

Macron may well end up being the latest resident of the Elysee Palace to fail to water down his country's wealth taxes. But whereas in the past this might have been viewed as a peculiarly French thing, this time around the implications are global.

Lionel Laurent is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering finance and markets. He previously worked at Reuters and Forbes.

## OPINION

## Apathy as Gossnell's crimes reach big screen

BY GEORGE F. WILL

Washington Post Writers Group

A word can be worth a thousand pictures. In the movie "Gossnell: The Trial of America's Biggest Serial Killer," the mild word "snip" describes what the camera, demonstrating the eloquence of reticence, does not show in gory detail: Kermit Gossnell's use of scissors to cut the spinal cords of hundreds of babies that survived his late-term abortion procedures.

Directed by actor Nick Searcy ("Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri," "The Shape of Water"), this gripping true-crime courtroom drama, with dialogue taken from court transcripts and police records, made it on 170 screens, and earned nearly \$4 million, and soon will be available in DVD format through Netflix. This, in spite of impediments from portions of America's cultural apparatus that are reflexively hostile to examining Gossnell's career in infanticide.

The movie's makers tried to raise money on a crowdfunding website that balked at graphic — meaning accurate — descriptions of the subject, because "we are a broad website used by millions of people." However, a pluckier site gathered \$2.4 million from 30,000 contributors. Almost all regular critics of movies were offered copies of the movie. A major film will receive about 270 media reviews, according

**People who should have known did not want to know because knowing would have forced them to answer questions about when in an infant's gestation it is preposterous to deny that a baby is present.**

to Mark Joseph, CEO of MJM Entertainment Group. "Gossnell" received 12, even though in the October week it was released it was the top grossing independent film and cracked the top 10 of all films in theaters. The critics' boycott of the film continued the journalists' indifference toward Gossnell's trial.

As the prosecutors drove to the courtroom in 2013 for the first day of Gossnell's trial on eight counts of murder (a woman who died following an abortion procedure, and seven snipped babies) and 24 felony counts of abortion beyond Pennsylvania's 24-week limit, they anticipated a difficult maelstrom of media attention. They encountered something worse: virtually no attention. In spite of — actually, because of — its gruesome substance, the two-month trial, which ended with Gossnell sentenced to life imprisonment without parole, was not covered until, by their example, a few journalists, especially in USA Today's Kirsten Powers — embarrassed others into paying attention. If Gossnell's victims had been middle class instead of inner-city

minorities, there surely would have been more interest in an abortion facility where babies were heard crying, and where a female victim of Gossnell's slapdash procedures went home with an arm and a leg of her baby still in her. According to grand jury testimony, early in Gossnell's career of carnage he used a medical device lacking federal approval, "basically plastic razors that were formed into a ball."

"They were coated into a gel, so that they would remain closed. These would be inserted into the woman's uterus. And after several hours of body temperature ... the gel would melt and these 97 razors would spring open, supposedly cutting up the fetus, and the fetus would be expelled."

Recently in Texas, Samuel Little, 78, has been confessing to more than 90 murders spanning 35 years. Now serving three life sentences for the murders of three Los Angeles women in the 1980s, he has been giving police details that seem to validate his claim to have killed in at least 14 states. A Texas district attorney says "we anticipate that Samuel Little will be confirmed as one

of the most prolific serial killers in American history," and The New York Times observes, "How a serial murderer could go on killing for years, apparently without anyone noticing a pattern, seems perplexing."

That Gossnell could have been a much more prolific killer than Little is not perplexing, for two reasons. People who should have known did not want to know because knowing would have forced them to answer questions about when in an infant's gestation it is preposterous to deny that a baby is present. And given that most "reproductive rights" militants oppose restrictions on late-term abortions because pre-term babies supposedly have no more moral significance than tumors, Gossnell sincerely thought he was doing nothing wrong in guaranteeing dead babies for those who paid for late-term abortions. This is why, in the movie and as actually happened, a female prosecutor is accurately warned by her supervisor that she would be characterized as "the prosecutor who went after reproductive rights."

No one knows how many — certainly hundreds, if not thousands — of babies' spinal cords Gossnell snipped before the 2010 raid on his "clinic." Law enforcement came looking for illegal drugs. They also found jars of babies' feet, fetal remains in toilets and milk cartons, and a pervasive smell of cat feces, in a facility that had not been inspected for 17 years.

Pennsylvania nail salons receive biennial inspections.

## Pressure, compromise keep hope alive for 'Blue Water' bill

BY TOM PHILLIOTT

Special to Stars and Stripes

Four veteran groups and a prominent military association have joined forces to pressure Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, to drop his opposition to a "Blue Water Navy" bill that would make tens of thousands of ailing veterans who served on ships that patrolled territorial waters off Vietnam during the war eligible for disability compensation and health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Those veterans contracted illnesses over the years that the VA lists as ailments presumed to be associated with exposure to Agent Orange and other herbicides sprayed ashore during the war to expose enemy ground forces.

The intensifying pressure on Lee, plus some last-minute compromises between veteran groups and the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, have resuscitated the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act (HR 299), which last month seemed set to expire by mid-December with the lame-duck Congress.

Suddenly, odds have risen that the Senate will pass a bill identical to the one approved unanimously by the House in June, despite stiffening opposition from the Trump administration and VA Secretary Robert Wilkie.

In Sen. Carroll, Lee's communications director, said Wednesday afternoon that the senator remains "committed to giving science the time it needs to properly inform policy" on Blue Water veterans and the health effects of patrolling within 12 nautical miles of Vietnam during the war.

In the Senate, an individual lawmaker can put a hold on most any bill. Lee and another still-unnamed senator put a hold on Blue Water Navy legislation. Lee's office, when queried last month, confirmed his opposition, explaining that the senator wants action on the bill delayed until the VA delivers a promised new health study on Vietnam veterans.

## MILITARY UPDATE

Wilkie had urged a delay when he told the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee in September to expect a study comparing ailments and morbidity of Vietnam vets, including a sample of shipboard personnel, with Americans of similar age. The study is to be completed sometime in 2019.

Blue Water Navy advocates, however, want no more delays. Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., chairman of the Senate committee, and Montana Sen. Jon Tester, its ranking Democrat, have promised to push through a bill this year, taking advantage of momentum behind the House vote.

On Wednesday five groups — The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Paralyzed Veterans of America and Military Officers Association of America — sent a joint letter to Lee, requesting a meeting "no later than the end of next week" to "hear your concerns" on HR 299 and "present our views on the merits of this legislation."

The letter notes that the groups combined have 5 million members, "including 19,000 who live in Utah," and that HR 299 passed the House unanimously and "has been awaiting Senate approval for almost six months."

Meanwhile, negotiations in recent days between Isakson, Tester and veteran service organizations reached key compromises and a consensus to back a Senate bill identical to the one passed by the House. That will avoid the need to send an amended bill back to the House for a final vote before the 115th Congress adjourns in mid-December.

That represents a concession by the largest veteran service organizations who joined in recent months to oppose the House bill's method of funding Blue Water Navy benefits by increasing VA home loan funding fees including, for the first time, imposing fees on certain disabled veterans

— those who opt to use a new jumbo loan feature the bill approves for veterans to be able to buy homes in pricey areas or the country or buy larger-than-average homes anywhere.

To continue to shield disabled veterans from any new fees, Isakson had drafted an amendment to HR 299 that would extend for two years the period when higher fees are imposed on nondisabled veterans using the loan benefit. But veteran groups told Isakson they would endorse Senate passage of HR 299 without his amendment if he understood the need to remove the jumbo loan fees from disabled veterans at the first opportunity in the 116th Congress and find a more acceptable way to fund much of the Blue Water Navy bill.

Isakson, in turn, agreed to drop support for another proposal to amend HR 299, this one from Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., that would soften resistance of some Republicans who want Congress to make it harder for the VA to expand the number of ailments presumed associated with battlefield exposure in wartime.

The Agent Orange Act of 1991 allows VA secretaries to add ailments to the VA's list of illnesses presumed caused by herbicide exposure if studies from the National Academy of Medicine confirm either a "sufficient" association or a "limited or suggestive" association between herbicide exposure and the disease.

Cassidy, who supports the Blue Water Navy bill, proposed eliminating the law's "limited or suggestive" language for adding ailments to VA lists of medical conditions presumed caused by Agent Orange or other wartime exposures, or future wars. Ailments could still be added only if medical research found a "sufficient" association between a disease and veterans' exposure to contaminants.

Cassidy's call to stiffen standards would not have affected veterans currently receiving VA compensation and health care for a presumed ailment, nor would it have narrowed current lists of presum-

ptive ailments for Agent Orange or other toxins, for veterans filing new claims. An early version of Isakson's column had described his proposal incorrectly. He only sought to raise the threshold for the addition of new ailments to VA presumptive disease lists.

Veterans groups opposed the Cassidy proposal and, for now, it is shelved. The challenge now is to pass HR 299 with few days remaining in the 115th Congress. The quickest route is for Isakson to bring the House bill to the Senate floor and seek unanimous consent of colleagues to pass it expeditiously.

If no senator objects, the Senate permits the action. In this case, if Lee or the unnamed senator also with a hold on HR 299 walks to the floor and objects, the bill dies and Blue Water Navy veterans start their fight anew in the 116th Congress.

Lee's spokesman, Carroll, acknowledged that the senator received a request to meet with veteran groups. He said, "We are committed to listening to what they know our concerns and we know theirs."

Does Lee plan to block a unanimous consent vote on the bill?

"Undetermined," said Carroll.

What about his commitment to give science the time it needs?

"There all multiple considerations made whenever a senator chooses to object to a unanimous consent request," Carroll said.

A veteran group representative said Lee has been "carrying water" for the Trump White House in opposing the bill. Carroll objected to that characterization.

"Senator Lee carries water for no one," he responded in an email. "I think he's deservedly earned his reputation as a principled thinker."

For the next week and perhaps beyond, Lee's principles regarding Blue Water Navy veterans and their survivors will be under a lot of pressure.

Send comments to Military Update, P.O. Box 231111, Centerville, Va. 20120; email, m.u.p@aoi.com; or Twitter: @Military\_Update.

## WORLD

# Tiny order of nuns presents Vatican with odd dilemma

By NICOLE WINFIELD  
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — The Vatican has an unusual dilemma on its hands after nearly all the nuns in a tiny French religious order threatened to renounce their vows rather than accept the Holy See's decision to remove their superior.

The sisters argue that the Vatican commissioners sent to replace their superior general, who is also the niece of the order's founder, have no understanding of their way of life or spirituality. The church's conclusion — contained in a summary of its investigation provided last week to The Associated Press — is that the Little Sisters of Marie, Mother of the Redeemer, are living "under the tight grip" of an "authoritarian" superior and feel a "serious conflict of loyalty" toward her.

The standoff marks an extraordinary battle of wills between the Vatican hierarchy and the group of 39 nuns, most in their 60s and 70s, who run homes for the aged in rural western and southern France. Their threat to leave comes at a time when the Catholic Church's hardly spare ranks, with the number of sisters plummeting in Europe and the Americas.

The unlikely revolt had been brewing for years but erupted in 2017, when the Vatican suspended the Little Sisters' government and ordered the superior, Mother Marie de Saint Michel, removed. The Vatican says it took action after local church investigations in 2010 and 2016 found an excessive authoritarianism in her rule and serious problems of governance.

Details of her alleged abuses of authority haven't been revealed. But within two years of her election as superior in 2000, six sisters had left, church officials say.

"The grave acts posed by Mother Marie de Saint Michel are denounced, and the sisters are called to religious and responsible behavior," the prefect of the Vatican's Congregation for Religious, Cardinal Joao Braz de Aviz, wrote the nuns in July.

By then, Braz had already appointed a commissioner and two deputies to run the order. But the Little Sisters refused to accept them and kept Saint Michel in place in the mother house.

As the standoff escalated, 34 of the 39 nuns issued an extraordinary public declaration last month saying they had no other choice but to ask to be relieved of their religious vows.

"We are not making this sacrifice lightly," they wrote. "We wish to remain in total communion with the church, but we cannot signify more clearly, or more painfully either, our incapacity in conscience to obey what we are commanded to do."

Their plight has garnered sympathy. A French support group, the Support Association of the Little Sisters of Marie, claims to have gotten 3,900 signatures for an online petition demanding the immediate restoration of the central government of the order and removal of the commissioners.

"We are in a situation of blockage," said Marcel Mignot, president of the support association.

The sisters downplay problems with their superior and say the real dispute is over their local bishop's decision to split up management of their elder-care homes that had been merged in recent years. They say the bishop used his authority to impose an unjust decision on them without taking their views or the financial implications into account.



PHOTOS BY EMIRAN GUREL/AP

People visit the main exhibition hall of the Zeugma Mosaic Museum in Gaziantep, Turkey, on Saturday.

## Turkey displays ancient mosaics returned from US after 50 years

Associated Press

Turkey has put on display Roman-era mosaics that were part of a U.S. university's art collection and were returned to the country more than half a century after looters smuggled them out.

At a ceremony on Saturday, Culture Minister Mehmet Nuri Ersoy thanked Ohio's Bowling Green State University administrators and others who were instrumental in the return of the artifacts, which are believed to have come from the ancient city of Zeugma, in Turkey's southern Gaziantep province.

Bowling Green bought the 12 mosaics from a New York gallery in 1965. Turkish and Bowling Green officials agreed upon their return in May.

U.S. Embassy diplomat Jeffrey Hovenstein said, "We are delighted to welcome home part of Turkey's glorious heritage."

The mosaics are being exhibited at Gaziantep's Zeugma Mosaic Museum.



Visitors take pictures of Roman-era mosaics, which were part of a U.S. university's art collection and have been returned to Turkey.

## Plume Labs develops gadget to send real-time air quality readings to app

By MARIE MAWAD  
Bloomberg

It's no surprise the London Underground is polluted, but outside the Parisian Louvre Museum? You'd be forgiven for thinking the adjacent Andre Le Notre-designed Tuileries Garden would've made the air more breathable.

A device by startup Plume Labs kills that assumption. The 4-inch-tall gadget — named Flow — sends real-time air quality readings to a smartphone app based on four levels, going from low pollution to very high, and flashes colored warnings on the unit.

Alerts for moderate or bad air quality lit up on London's subterranean transport network and the city's King's Cross, St Pancras and Waterloo rail stations. In Paris,

the Seine riverbank, which has been partially closed off to cars by Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, as well as the capital's Gare du Nord station also prompted warnings.

Mayors of cities including the U.K. and French capitals have waged a war on pollution in recent years, with pledges of cleaner air and healthier environments to citizens, and measures from partial closing lanes to congestion tolls. Levels of the harmful air pollutant nitrogen dioxide in the center of London are worse than in Beijing.

Plume argues pollution should be measured more locally because there are huge differences within a city — sometimes tenfold within a few hundred feet — and people's habits indoors, from cooking to using cleaning products or air

fresheners, affect the air they breathe.

"The air is better near Big Ben than the Eiffel Tower, cleaner on the Avenue des Champs-Elysees than in London's Square Mile, and it's really dirty on the Eurostar train."

Even a reading near a food truck that sells fish and chips on the Thames was terrible, likely because of burning oil.

"Not everyone's going to move to the countryside for cleaner air, so we have to address people's need for breathing better within cities," said David Lissmyr, co-founder and chief technology officer at Plume Labs. "The best way to do that is with personalized data."

Websites Airparif in Paris and

Londonair in the U.K. capital already generate weather reports on pollution by using measuring stations in and around urban areas. Their data show that the limits recommended by the World Health Organization and regional regulators for being exposed to several air pollutants were repeatedly breached this year in downtown London and Paris.

Flow, which retails for 179 euros in Europe and \$179 in the U.S., measures factors such as categories of fine particles and volatile organic compounds, or VOCs. Those pollutants have been blamed for diseases from asthma and bronchitis to lung cancer.

The London Underground received a purple light and "very high pollution" rating for levels of

fine particles, frequently associated with underground transportation. The level of VOCs prompted a warning in a university classroom in the French capital, which may have been caused by factors including cleaning solvents.

Readings on the street mostly oscillated between "low" and "moderate" — the first two ratings on the four-level scale — with minor variations between roads with heavy traffic or smaller streets.

The results weren't as surprising or sharply varying as with indoor pollution. The readings outside depend on a lot of factors, including temperature, wind and pollution within a broader area, which mean they can vary a lot from one day to the next.



# AMERICAN ROUNDUP

## Man yells 'There's no Santa!' at holiday event

**FL** CAPE CORAL — It wasn't the Grinch who stole Christmas. It was a man who screamed, "There's no Santa Claus!" over and over during a recent holiday festival in Florida.

A southwest Florida woman shared cellphone footage of the man yelling during the Cape Coral Festival of Lights on Dec. 1.

Cape Coral police told the station that officers at the event couldn't do anything because the man was exercising his right to freedom of speech. They added they could have intervened had he used a voice enhancer, such as a megaphone, or started a riot.

Cindy Menkes, of Cape Coral, said it's about decency and that she's sad that "the magic of this time of year" was taken away from some children.

## Auction of Sinatra treasures a big hit

**NY** NEW YORK — The private treasures of Frank Sinatra and his wife, Barbara, were a multimillion-dollar hit at auction.

Sotheby's reported Friday that the couple's entertainment memorabilia, art, jewelry, books and other personal items sold for \$9.2 million — about twice their pre-sale estimates.

Nine paintings by the legendary crooner went for more than \$850,000, against a high estimate of \$120,000.

The 20-carat diamond engagement ring Frank Sinatra presented to his fiancée in a glass of champagne fetched nearly \$1.7 million, surpassing a top \$1.5 million estimate.

## Cougar kills 8 alpacas; nearby llama also dead

**WA** SPOKANE — Officials said a young male cougar attacked and killed at least eight alpacas northwest of Spokane sometime Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning.

The Spokesman-Review reported that a nearby llama also died, possibly of stress from the attack.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife officials responded Wednesday to the area near Riverside State Park. Dogs tracked the cougar, and a state shooter killed the 135-pound animal.

## Mom who let teen drive not charged in deaths

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — The mother of a teenage girl who struck and killed two people during a drunk-driving crash at Philadelphia shopping center earlier this year is no longer charged in the deaths.

The Philadelphia Inquirer reported that a municipal court judge dropped vehicular homicide and manslaughter charges against the mother.

Authorities said Hernandez allowed her daughter, 15, to drive June 4 at the Aramingo Village shopping center parking lot in northern Philadelphia. Officials said the sport utility vehicle lunged

## THE CENSUS

# 1M

The number of balsam wreaths aboard a tractor-trailer caravan that is on its way to the nation's most hallowed ground, Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. The "Wreaths Across America" convoy departed Saturday from Columbia Falls, Maine, where the wreaths were made, and will stop at schools, memorials and veteran group gatherings along the 740-mile journey to Arlington. The tradition began when Maine wreathmaker Merrill Worcester donated 5,000 wreaths to the cemetery; since then, it has grown each year. The wreaths are set to arrive at the cemetery on Dec. 15, and volunteers will place the greenery on headstones.



JAMES QUIGO, THE (VICTORVILLE, CALIF.) DAILY PRESS/AP

## Lending a gloved hand

A hiker reaches out for help as visitors turned out to play in the new coat of snow covering the mountains Friday in Wrightwood, Calif.

forward and jumped a curb, killing David Abshire and Thomas Papineau, both 55.

Hernandez still faces a charge of allowing an unlicensed driver to operate a vehicle. Her daughter was charged as a juvenile with vehicular homicide and related offenses.

## Mmm, bacon! Vending machine a hit at school

**OH** COLUMBUS — Many Ohio State University students are taking a break from studying for final exams by making a bacon run.

Senior Sarah Page, who studies meat science, said the bacon vending machine at the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences has turned out to be even more popular than expected. It has to be restocked four or five times a day and offers cooked bacon strips and bacon bits for \$1.

Proceeds will benefit the meat science program, members of which are responsible for the bacon machine operation on the Columbus campus.

The Ohio Port Council sponsored the machine, with bacon donations from Smithfield, Hormel and Sugardale.

## Man who beat woman calls her from jail

**NC** ASHEVILLE — A North Carolina man charged with beating a woman who had a protective order against him and then calling her 223 times from jail has been sentenced to a minimum of 3½ years in prison.

The Asheville Citizen-Times reported Thursday that Lewie Robinson pleaded guilty to assault inflicting serious injury, assault by strangulation, misdemeanor assault and violating the order.

Police said Robinson, 54, was initially charged in May with assaulting the woman and was later served in jail with 28 more arrest warrants for having violated the domestic violence protection order.

Even then, he kept it up, calling her hundreds of times over four months from the Buncombe County Detention Center.

## Leaping lemur surprises trooper during arrest

**FL** SANFORD — A lemur surprised a Florida Highway Patrol trooper when

it crawled from a trailer being pulled by a pickup truck that had been stopped for driving erratically and hitting other cars.

Dashcam video shows the lemur peeking out of the trailer before hopping to the ground and leaping around the trooper, who was talking to the driver along Interstate 4 in Sanford on the night of Dec. 1. The video shows the trooper doing a double take as the lemur runs around and stands on its hind legs.

Driver Shane Taylor, 27, was arrested on several charges, including DUI. State wildlife officers took custody of the lemur and other exotic animals including a tortoise, a goat, a parrot and a wallaby.

## Train car where 6 killed years ago still in service

**NY** NEW YORK — A train car that became a massacre scene when a gunman killed six people and wounded 19 more is still in service 25 years after the deadly rampage.

Newsday reported that the Long Island Rail Road train where Colin Ferguson opened fire on Dec. 7, 1993, still provides daily rides to hundreds of commuters.

Some riders have posted on social media that traveling in the ill-fated train car is "creepy."

LIRR spokesman Aaron Donovan said the decision to retain the car was not made lightly. The train's cars were less than 10 years old when the shooting occurred.

## Police seek man in shooting at Popeyes

**MO** ST. PETERS — Police in the St. Louis suburb of St. Peters are searching for a man who fired at a Popeyes Louisiana Kitchen restaurant worker after being angered that the kitchen closed early.

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch reported the man pulled up to the drive-thru window about 9:50 p.m. The restaurant was open until 10 p.m., but a female worker told him the kitchen was closed.

The man began cursing at the woman. A male employee came out to the parking lot and confronted the driver, who drove away.

Police said that less than a minute later, the man returned and fired a gun at the male employee, who was not hurt.

From wire reports

FACES

# With Hart's downfall, hosting Oscars got harder

**By LINDSEY BARR**  
*Associated Press*

The "most thankless job in town" just got more difficult.

The Oscars have a long-standing host problem, but Kevin Hart's swift downfall over old anti-gay tweets has led to bigger questions about the gig and the liability of social media histories.

It's the latest controversy for the organization that puts on the Academy Awards, which is trying to combat declining ratings for its marquee event while weathering the pressure of being a focal point for the shortcomings of the entertainment industry as a whole.

"I think it's embarrassing," Matthew Belloni, the editorial director of The Hollywood Reporter, said about the academy's decision to pick Hart. "It shows that they either didn't vet this host properly, or they did vet him and didn't think this would



**Just two days after he was confirmed as host of the Oscars, Kevin Hart stepped down following an outcry over his past anti-gay tweets.**

be an issue. And both are a little troubling."

Hart seemed to fit the bill for what the academy was looking for. "He checks all the boxes for a show like the Oscars," Belloni

said. "He's a legitimate movie star. He's a funny guy and can handle the stand-up element of the show. And he has a gigantic social following. And to the academy, that's important. They want someone who can bring a new audience to the show."

Oscars hosts have always been subjected to a lot of scrutiny.

Poor or even mediocre performances can haunt people for years (Anne Hathaway and James Franco). Off-color jokes have a way of festering in the cultural consciousness (think of Seth MacFarlane's "we saw your boobs" song, or Chris Rock's Asian jokes). And even when things go decently enough, everyone is handed the right envelope and nobody walks away offended, the hosts can still be blamed for poor ratings.

People have stepped down from being the public face of the event

amid controversy, as producer Brett Ratner did in 2011 for anti-gay slurs. But Hart's case is a little different. Ratner's offensive remarks came after he had secured the gig. Hart's tweets were from almost a decade ago and were well known.

But in 2018, an unsavory social media past can cost someone their job. Just this past summer, the Walt Disney Co. fired director James Gunn from the third "Guardians of the Galaxy" movie for old tweets in which he joked about subjects including rape and pedophilia. As with Hart, the problematic tweets were amplified by social media outrage.

Immediately after Hart was confirmed as host on Tuesday night, some journalists began tweeting reminders of Hart's past comments. By Thursday morning, a few publications had written articles about them. The outrage es-

calated, Hart commented but did not apologize, stoking even more outrage. Capping a swift and dramatic fall, Hart wrote on Twitter just after midnight Thursday that he was withdrawing as Oscars host because he didn't want to be a distraction.

"I sincerely apologize to the LGBTQ+ community for my insensitive words from my past," wrote Hart.

The advocacy organization GLAAD wishes Hart hadn't stepped down, however.

"Hart's apology to LGBTQ+ people is an important step forward, but he missed a real opportunity to use his platform and the Oscars stage to build unity and awareness," said GLAAD President and CEO Sarah Kate Ellis.

The film academy will need to move quickly to replace Hart. The 91st Oscars are less than three months out.



**Kendrick Lamar gets another shot at album of the year with "Black Panther: The Album, Music From and Inspired By." Lamar has been nominated in the category three times previously but has yet to win.**

## Lamar leads Grammy noms

The music of "Black Panther," with Kendrick Lamar in its starring role, officially owns the 2019 Grammy Awards, where women are heavily represented in the four major categories following a year where their presence was barely felt.

The Recording Academy announced Dec. 7 that Lamar is the top contender with eight nominations, including seven for his musical companion to the Marvel Studios juggernaut starring Chadwick Boseman and Michael B. Jordan. "Black Panther: The Album, Music From and Inspired By" is up for album of the year, a category in which women make up five of the eight nominees.

Lamar's Top 10 hit, the SZA-assisted "All the Stars," is nominated for record and song of the year. Five other songs scored nominations in both categories, including Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper's "Shallow" from "A Star Is Born"; Childish Gambino's "This Is America"; Drake's "God's Plan"; Zedd, Maren Morris and Grey's "The Middle"; and Brandi Carlile's "The Joke."

The Grammys will be handed out at the Staples Center in Los Angeles on Feb. 10.

From The Associated Press

### Nominees in major categories

**Album of the year**  
"Invasion of Privacy," Cardi B  
"By the Way, I Forgave You," Brandi Carlile  
"H.E.R.," H.E.R.  
"Beerbongs & Bentleys," Post Malone  
"Dirty Computer," Janelle Monáe  
"Golden Hour," Kacey Musgraves  
"Black Panther: The Album, Music From and Inspired By," Kendrick Lamar

**Record of the year**  
"I Like It," Cardi B, Bad Bunny and J Balvin  
"The Joke," Brandi Carlile  
"This Is America," Childish Gambino  
"God's Plan," Drake  
"Shallow," Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper  
"All the Stars," Kendrick Lamar and SZA  
"Rockstar," Post Malone and 21 Savage  
"The Middle," Zedd, Maren Morris and Grey

**Best pop album**  
"Camila," Camila Cabello  
"Meaning of Life," Kelly Clarkson  
"Sweetener," Ariana Grande  
"Shawn Mendes," Shawn Mendes  
"Beautiful Trauma," P!nk  
"Reputation," Taylor Swift

**Best pop solo performance**  
"Colors," Beck  
"Havana (Live)," Camila Cabello  
"God Is a Woman," Ariana Grande  
"Joanne (Where Do You Think You're Goin?)," Lady Gaga  
"Better Now," Post Malone

**Best traditional pop album**  
"Love Is Here to Stay," Tony Bennett and Diana Krall  
"My Way," Willie Nelson  
"Nat 'King' Cole & Me," Gregory Porter  
"Standards (Deluxe)," Seal  
"The Music...The Mem'ries...The Magic!," Barbra Streisand

**Song of the year (songwriter's award)**  
"Boo'd Up," Ella Mai, DJ Mustard, Larrance Dopson and Joelle James  
"In My Blood," Shawn Mendes, Teddy Geiger, Scott Harris and Geoffrey Warburton  
"The Joke," Brandi Carlile, Dave Cobb, Phil Hanseroth and Tim Hanseroth  
"This Is America," Childish Gambino and Ludwig Goransson  
"God's Plan," Drake, Noah "40" Shebib, Boi-1da, Davon Jackson, Brock Korsan and Ron LaTour  
"Shallow," Lady Gaga, Mark Ronson, Anthony Rossomando and Andrew Wyatt  
"All the Stars," Kendrick Lamar, SZA, Ali Shuckburgh, Mark Spears and Anthony Tiffith  
"The Middle," Zedd, Grey, Sarah Aarons, John K. Johnson, Stefan Johnson and Marcus Lomax

**Best pop duo/group performance**  
"Fall In Line," Christina Aguilera and Demi Lovato  
"Don't Go Breaking My Heart," Backstreet Boys  
"S Wonderful," Tony Bennett and Diana Krall  
"Shallow," Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper  
"Girls Like You," Maroon 5 and Cardi B  
"Say Something," Justin Timberlake and Chris Stapleton  
"The Middle," Zedd, Maren Morris and Grey

**Best dance/electronic album**  
"Singularity," Jon Hopkins  
"Woman Worldwide," Justice  
"Treehouse," Sofi Tukker  
"Of All Your Pearl's Un-Insides," SOPHIE  
"Lune Rouge," TOKIMONSTA

**Best alternative music album**  
"Tranquility Base Hotel + Casino," Arctic Monkeys  
"Colors," Beck  
"Utopia," Bjork  
"American Utopia," David Byrne  
"Masseduction," St. Vincent

**Best country album**  
"Unapologetically," Kelsea Ballerini  
"Port Saint Joe," Brekka Osborne  
"Girl Going Nowhere," Ashley McBryde  
"Golden Hour," Kacey Musgraves  
"From A Room: Volume 2," Chris Stapleton

**Best compilation soundtrack for visual media**  
"Call Me By Your Name"  
"Deadpool 2"  
"The Greatest Showman"  
"Lady Bird"  
"Stranger Things"

**Best urban contemporary album**  
"Everything Is Love," The Carters (Beyoncé and Jay-Z)  
"The Kids Are Alright," Chlöe x Halle  
"Chris Dave and the Drumheadz," Chris Dave And The Drumheadz  
"War & Leisure," Miguel  
"Ventilquism," Meshell Ndegeocello

**Best rock album**  
"Rainier Gro," Alice In Chains  
"Mania," Fall Out Boy  
"Prequelle," Ghost  
"From the Fires," Greta Van Fleet  
"Pacific Daydream," Weezer

**Best R&B album**  
"Sex & Cigarettes," Toni Braxton  
"Good Thing," Leon Bridges  
"Honesty," Lalah Hathaway  
"H.E.R.," H.E.R.  
"Gumbo Unplugged (Live)," PJ Morton

**Best rap album**  
"Invasion of Privacy," Cardi B  
"Swimming," Mac Miller  
"Victory Lap," Nipsey Hussle  
"Daytona," Pusha T  
"Astrworld," Travis Scott

**Best new artist**  
Chloe x Halle  
Luke Combs  
Greta Van Fleet  
H.E.R.  
Dua Lipa  
Margo Price  
Bebe Rexha  
Jorja Smith

**Best jazz vocal album**  
"My Mood Is You," Freddy Cole  
"The Questions," Kurt Elling  
"The Subject Tonight Is Love," Kate McGarry With Keith Ganz and Gary Versace  
"If You Really Want," Raul Midon With The Metropole Orkest Conducted by Vince Mendoza  
"The Window," Cecile McLorin Salvant

**Best jazz instrumental album**  
"Diamond Cut," Tia Fuller  
"Live In Europe," Fred Hersch Trio  
"Seymour Reads The Constitution!," Brad Mehldau Trio  
"Still Dreaming," Joshua Redman, Ron Miles, Scott Colley & Brian Blade  
"Emanon," The Wayne Shorter Quartet

**Best music video**  
"Ape\$-4," The Carters  
"This Is America," Childish Gambino  
"I'm Not Racist," Joyner Lucas  
"PYNK," Janelle Monáe  
"MUMBO JUMBO," Tierra Whack  
"Life In 12 Bars," Eric Clapton  
"Whitney," (Whitney Houston)  
"Quincy," Quincy Jones  
"Itzhak," Itzhak Perlman  
"The King," (Elvis Presley)

**Producer of the year, non-classical**  
Boi-1da  
Larry Klein  
Linda Perry  
Kanye West  
Pharrell Williams

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## BUSINESS/WEATHER

## Japan OKs bill allowing more foreign workers

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
Associated Press

TOKYO — Japanese lawmakers early Saturday approved government-proposed legislation allowing hundreds of thousands of foreign laborers to live and work in a country that has long resisted accepting outsiders.

The contentious legislation passed only months after Prime Minister Shinzo Abe proposed the plan despite opposition groups' demand for more thorough debate to address concerns about a drastic change of policy.

It's seen as an unavoidable step as the country's population of about 126 million rapidly ages and shrinks.

Many short-handed industries, especially in the services sector, already rely heavily on foreign "trainees" and language students. Japan also selectively grants visas to white-collar pro-

fessionals, often from the West. Bringing in foreign laborers is a last resort after Abe's deeply conservative government tried to meet labor shortages by encouraging more employment of women and older workers and using more robots and other automation.

"Japan has come to a point where we had to face the reality that there is serious depopulation and serious aging," said Toshihiro Menju, an expert on foreign labor and population issues at the Japan Center for International Exchange.

"Shortages of workers are so serious ... that [allowing] immigrants is the only option the government can take," he said.

Abe's latest plan calls for relaxing Japan's visa requirements in sectors facing severe labor shortages such as construction, nursing, farming, transport and tourism — new categories of jobs

to be added to the current list of highly skilled professionals.

The number of foreign workers in Japan has more than doubled since 2000 to nearly 1.3 million last year, out of a working-age population of 67 million.

Workers from developing Asian countries used to stay mostly behind the scenes, but not anymore. Almost all convenience stores are partly staffed by Asian workers and so are many restaurant chains.

The fastest growing group of foreign workers is Vietnamese, many of whom are employed in construction and nursing. Construction workers are particularly in demand as Japan rushes to finish building venues and other infrastructure for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

In many cases, the workers are subjected to poor working conditions and other abuses.

"I had no time for a holiday ...

Even if I worked so hard I still had no money," said Eng Pisey, 33, from Cambodia, who came to Japan on a training program in 2016 and worked at a garment factory in Tochigi, north of Tokyo. She said she had to borrow \$4,000 to pay a broker to arrange her job, and ended up quitting after becoming ill from overwork.

Under the legislation, two categories of workers will be accepted beginning in April.

Less-skilled workers and former interns with basic Japanese competency are allowed to stay in the country for only up to five years as visitors and cannot bring in family members. That is meant to encourage them to leave when their visas expire, preventing them from settling in Japan.

The second category, those with higher skills, Japanese language and cultural understanding, would be allowed to bring their families and apply for citizenship

after living in Japan for 10 years if they commit no crimes.

"Creating new visa statuses to accommodate foreign human resources is our urgent task as we face serious labor shortages, especially at small and medium-size companies," Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Friday.

But details including a new immigration agency, competency tests for applicants and ways to eliminate abusive working conditions still need to be decided.

## EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Dec. 10)	\$1.1708
Dollar buys (Dec. 10)	69.8541
British pound (Dec. 10)	\$1.31
Japanese yen (Dec. 10)	110.90
South Korean won (Dec. 10)	1,090.00

Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.2757
Canada (Dollar)	1.2866
China (Yuan)	6.8762
Denmark (Krone)	6.5554
Egypt (Pound)	17.8698
Euro	\$1.1387/0.8782
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8168
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Japan (Yen)	112.83
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3040
Norway (Krone)	8.4863
Philippines (Peso)	52.75
Poland (Zloty)	3.76
Saudi (Riyal)	3.7517
Singapore (Dollar)	1.3693
South Korea (Won)	1,126.30
Switzerland (Franc)	0.9925
Thailand (Baht)	32.80
Turkey (Lira)	5.2744

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), consult with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

## INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	2.75
Federal funds market rate	2.00
3-month bill	2.34
30-year bond	3.14

## Study finds minimum wage is lower than what residents want

By CHRISTOPHER INGRAHAM  
The Washington Post

The United States has one of the lowest minimum wages of the world's wealthy nations. It may come as no surprise, then, that minimum wage increases are popular with voters.

An August 2016 Pew Research Center survey, for instance, found that 58 percent of Americans supported doubling the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to \$15, with 41 percent opposed.

But Republicans in Congress have shown little interest in increasing the minimum wage in recent years. As a result, most minimum wage action now hap-

pens at the state level. In 2018 alone, minimum wage increases went into effect in at least 18 states.

Even at the state level, politicians aren't particularly responsive to what voters want when it comes to the minimum wage. That's been underscored in new research, published this month in the American Journal of Political Science, showing that in every single state in the union, minimum wages are set at levels well below what state residents say they prefer.

"On average, state minimum wages are set at a level approximately two dollars per hour lower

than the wage state residents would prefer," researchers found.

Arriving at that conclusion was fairly straightforward. In a nationally representative survey, the researchers told state residents what the minimum wage in their state was and followed up with an open-ended question asking what respondents thought the minimum wage should be.

The researchers characterize the resulting gap as a policy bias — the disconnect between what voters prefer and what legislators enact. In all 50 states, that bias runs in the same direction — toward a policy that is more conservative than what the public wants.

## MONDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



## MONDAY IN EUROPE



## TUESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

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Daily Newspaper of U.S. Armed Forces

in the European Theater of Operations

Vol. 1—No. 241

1 Fr.

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Sunday, March 25, 1945

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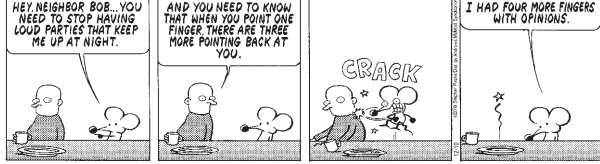
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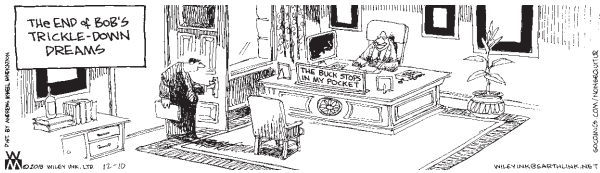
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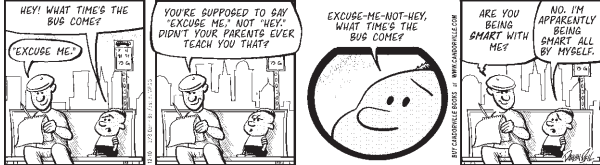
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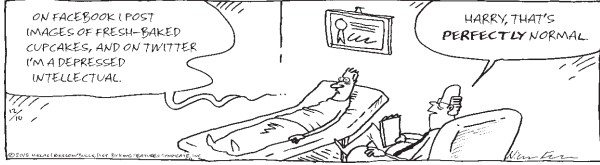
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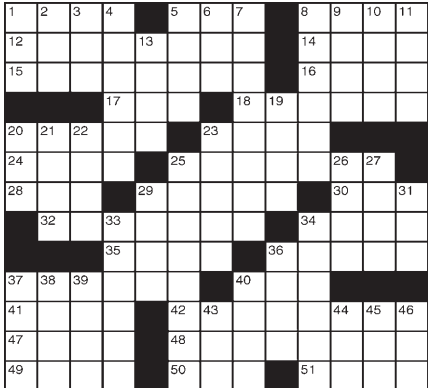
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# Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## ACROSS

- "Frozen" snow queen
- Vagrant
- Nile vipers
- Indian cooking style
- Detail, briefly
- Telemarketer's tactic
- Teeny bit
- Surprised cries
- Lessened
- Dazzles
- 23 Tight-litting
- Painter Holbein
- Freezing
- On in years
- Boorish
- Fine, at NASA
- Brewski
- Ore source
- "— She Sweet"
- Egypt's neighbor
- Sea off Poland
- Part of UCLA
- Curved molding
- Winter malady
- Marries
- Intensify
- Pants part
- Tina of "30 Rock"
- Gaelic

## DOWN

- List-ending abbr.
- 27 Faces of Dr. —
- NBC sketch show
- Extras
- Fluffy scarves
- Web address
- Relating to La Scala's city
- Italian cheese
- Espy
- Sampras of tennis
- Large amount
- Folksinger Phil
- Tampa Bay
- HBO, for short
- 20H0 competitor
- Body powder
- Nullify
- Meager
- Cooking show from Japan
- Set down
- Lady of Spain
- Roman 402
- Understanding
- Most recent
- Brawn
- Fizzy drink
- Fiddle sticks
- Writer James
- Castor's mother
- Frilly
- Language suffix
- Scul tool
- 45 USN officers
- Scottish river

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 12-10

## CRYPTOQUIP

X B T B D V P Y Q C P R E - C S S V  
Y B R E P Z Y P D E C S Z D V B Y  
B V Z L P E B V P E P D N M Q  
X B P T Z B Z D N M B Y R N E Q :  
L S Y D B X X R P D V B Y R .

**Saturday's Cryptoquip:** SUPPOSING A MARRIED PAIR COMPETED SIDE BY SIDE IN A MARATHON, I GUESS THEY'D BE RUNNING MATES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: X equals L




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## COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

## No. 2 Kansas holds off New Mexico State

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Dedric Lawson's second-half performance was invaluable for No. 2 Kansas.

Lawson had 20 points and 10 rebounds and scored Kansas' final 14 points as the undefeated Jayhawks got past New Mexico State 63-60 in the Jayhawk Shootout on Saturday night.

The Jayhawks' offense stalled after a hot start in their first game without injured center Udoka Azubuike, going scoreless for over five minutes in the first half. Lawson, their offensive anchor, had just two points at halftime, but scored 18 in the second half as they put it together and escaped with a win.

"He didn't get a lot done in the first half, and he's better than that, but he did make some key plays late," coach Bill Self said. "We don't win the game, obviously, unless he made those plays."

Lawson began to heat up when he tied the score with a layup with six minutes to go. He hit a three-pointer — just his second of the season — with under four minutes left to open a 60-57 lead, and then hit three free throws in the last minute to seal the victory for Kansas (8-0).

It didn't take any motivational speeches or self-searching for Lawson to overcome his early struggles. He just needed to see his shots start to fall.

"It's just basketball," Lawson said. "It's all about getting into a rhythm. Once you get into a rhythm, you get into the flow of the game."

Marcus Garrett was the only member of the Jayhawks in double figures, with 10 points. Charlie Moore had three steals in his first start.

**No. 3 Duke 91, Yale 58:** RJ Barrett had 30 points, seven rebounds and six assists, and the host Blue Devils pulled away for the win.

Zion Williamson scored 20 points for Duke, which led 41-32 at halftime but hit its first six shots after the break to finally stretch out the lead. Duke (9-1) shot 57 percent after halftime and 49 percent overall for its fourth straight win.

**No. 5 Michigan 89, South Carolina 78:** Jordan Poole scored 19 of his 26 points in the second half, and the host Wolverines remained unbeaten.

The Gamecocks (4-5) scored more points than any team all season against Michigan. But the Wolverines (10-0) were ahead by six at halftime, and they led comfortably for most of the second half.

Iggy Brazdilski scored 17 points and Jon Teske added 15 for Michigan.

**No. 8 Auburn 82, Dayton 72:** Bryce Brown scored a career-high 34 points and made six three-pointers to lead host Auburn to the win.



CHARLIE RIEDEL/AP

New Mexico State's C.J. Bobbitt, left, pressures Kansas' Dedric Lawson on a shot during the first half on Saturday in Kansas City, Mo.

Brown got into a groove late in the first half, making four straight threes in the final 2:29 to give the Tigers a 51-32 lead.

Jared Harper had 20 points and seven assists for Auburn (8-1).

**Seton Hall 84, No. 9 Kentucky 83 (OT):** Myles Cale hit a go-ahead three-pointer with 9.5 seconds left in overtime and Seton Hall overcame Keldon Johnson's half-court heave that tied the score at the regulation buzzer.

Johnson had a chance to win it for the Wildcats (7-2), but his three-point try with a second remaining was blocked by Quincy McKnight.

Myles Powell scored 25 of his 28 points after halftime for Seton Hall (6-3), including a tiebreaking three in the final seconds at Madison Square Garden.

PJ Washington inbounded from the baseline and threw a long pass to an open Johnson. He caught the ball near half court, turned over his left shoulder and hurled a right-handed shot that went in as the buzzer sounded, tying it at 70.

**No. 10 Michigan State 63, Florida 59:** Kyle Ahrens scored visiting Michigan State's final seven points, including a two-handed jam with 8.7 seconds remaining.

Ahrens barely beat the shot clock with his baseline slam, giving the Spartans the final points in a game the Gators made close thanks mostly to freshman Andrew Nembhard late.

Florida (5-4) cut Michigan State's lead to 56-53 on KeVaughn Allen's three-pointer with 3:24 to play, but Ahrens answered from the corner on the other end. Ahrens added a reverse layup on the Spartans' next possession.

**No. 11 Florida State 79, Connecticut 71:** At Newark, N.J., Terance Mann scored 20 points, reserve David Nichols had 16 and Florida State beat Connecticut in the second game of the Never Forget Tribute Classic.

Mfiondu Kabengele added 15 points for Florida State (8-1), which has won three in a row. Christ Koumadje finished with seven points and 10 rebounds.

**Marquette 74, No. 12 Wisconsin 69 (OT):** At Milwaukee, Markus Howard scored 27 points, freshman Joey Hauser added 15 and Marquette grinded out the win.

Sam Hauser had 13 points and 14 rebounds for the Golden Eagles (8-2). But it was his little brother, Joey, who came up clutch playing in his first game in the heated in-state rivalry.

He scored four in the opening two minutes of overtime, including both free throws after Wisconsin's Brad Davison was called for a flagrant foul with 3:35 left.

Wisconsin (8-2) wasted a terrific effort from Ethan Happ, who had 34 points and 11 rebounds.

**Tulsa 47, No. 16 Kansas State 46:** Martins Igbunu made a go-ahead jump hook with 1:51 remaining, lifting host Tulsa to the victory.

Curran Scott scored 14 points for Tulsa (7-3), and Igbanu had nine points and six rebounds. The Hurricane got their second straight victory against the Big 12, also topping Oklahoma State 74-71 on Wednesday.

Kansas State had one last chance, but Barry Brown Jr. rimmed out a floater on a drive into the lane. Several tips misfired and the Tulsa students stormed the court.

**No. 17 Buffalo 80, St. Bonaventure 62:** Jayvon Graves hit a career-best five three-pointers and scored 19 points, helping visiting Buffalo to another win.

CJ Massenburg had 14 points and nine rebounds as Buffalo (9-0) added to its best start since going 15-0 in 1930-31.

**No. 21 Villanova 70, Saint Joseph's 58:** Eric Paschall had 14 points and nine rebounds, and the host Wildcats earned their 25th straight Big 5 victory.

Joe Cremona and Phil Booth scored 12 points apiece as Villanova (8-2) continued its dominance of the long-standing city series with Philadelphia rivals Saint Joseph's, Penn., La Salle and Temple.

Lamar Kimble led Saint Joseph's with 22 points. The Hawks (5-5) were missing Charlie Brown, the top scorer in the Atlantic 10, who sprained his ankle on Wednesday.

**No. 1 Mississippi State 82, Clemson 71:** At Newark, N.J., Lamar Peters scored 28 points to lead Mississippi State to its fifth straight win.

Quindary Weatherspoon added 20 points for Mississippi State (8-1). Peters was 8-for-11 from three-point range.

Clemson (6-3) got 23 points from Amir Simms and 18 points from Elijah Thomas.

**No. 23 Maryland 55, Loyola of Chicago 41:** At Baltimore, Anthony Cowan scored 17 points and Maryland overcame a sluggish start.

Cowan became the 55th player in Maryland history to score 1,000 career points, hitting the milestone with a free throw in the first half. Aaron Wiggins added 10 points for the Terrapins (8-2).

Cameron Krutwig scored 12 points for the short-handed Ramblers (5-5), who have lost four of five.

**No. 24 Nebraska 94, Creighton 75:** James Palmer scored 30 points, Thomas Allen had a career-high 18 and host Nebraska stopped a seven-game losing streak to its in-state rival.

The sellout crowd at Pinnacle Bank Arena began chanting "Go Big Red!" as the Huskers nursed a 19-point lead with less than two minutes to play.

**No. 25 Furman 74, South Carolina Upstate 60:** Jordan Lyons had 20 points and Noah Gurley added 15 points and six rebounds, powering visiting Furman.

The surprise mid-major of the season, the Paladins (10-0) got through the program's first-ever week in the AP Top 25 unscathed after a slow start.

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**New York** 23 22 32 27-10  
Three-point Goals—Brooklyn 11-22  
(Crabbe 5-5, Hollis-Jefferson 2-2, Harris 2-4, Russell 1-2, Dinwiddie 1-3, Dudley 1-0, Kuruks 0-2, Carroll 0-3), New York 10-26 (Hezonja 3-4, Dotson 2-3, Mudiay 2-2, Ntilikina 1-4, Knox 0-1, Trier 0-2, Vonle 0-2, Hardaway Jr. 0-5). Fouled Out—Allen. Rebounds—Brooklyn 45 (Allen 12), New York 40 (Kanter 14). Assists—Brooklyn 27 (Russell 11), New York 22 (Mudiay 10, Vonle 4). Total Fouls—Brooklyn 25, New York 18. Technicals—Davis, Robinson. A-18,667 (19,817).





## MMA/COLLEGE FOOTBALL



NATHAN DENETTE, THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

Max Holloway, left, fights Brian Ortega during their featherweight championship bout at UFC 231 in Toronto on Saturday. Holloway retained his title when the fight was stopped after the fourth round.

## Holloway, Shevchenko prevail in title bouts

Title defense could be last at 145 pounds for featherweight champ

Associated Press

TORONTO — Featherweight champion Max Holloway stopped top contender Brian Ortega by TKO at UFC 231 on Saturday night.

The fight was stopped by the doctor after four rounds. Ortega's left eye was almost closed, his face bloodied.

The skills of Holloway, who was returning from an injury-plagued year, were too much for Ortega, who had rallied in the third round but was unable to take Holloway down or use his vaunted jiu-jitsu.

"Kudos to him," Holloway said of Ortega. "On to the next (opponent)."

UFC president Dana White applauded the decision to end the fight.

"That fifth round should never have happened and I'm glad it didn't," he said. "The fight needed to be stopped. For us all of in here that have been in the fight game for a long time, that's what you call too tough for your own good."

"I believe he could have done the fifth round. I believe he would have done the fifth round. But it should have never happened ... He's a young talented guy and I think going into that fifth round would have been very bad for him health-wise. The fourth round wasn't good for him health-wise."

Holloway improved to 20-3-0, adding to his impressive credentials, while Ortega slipped to 14-1-0 with one no contest.

It could be Holloway's last fight at 145 pounds. White wants him to move up to lightweight (155) to avoid the grueling weight cut.

Valentina Shevchenko, a native of Kyrgyzstan fighting out of



Valentina Shevchenko fights Joanna Jedrzejczyk during a women's flyweight bout at UFC 231 in Toronto on Saturday. Shevchenko won a unanimous five-round decision.

Peru, overpowered a game, but outmached Joanna Jedrzejczyk, of Poland, for the vacant women's flyweight title in the co-main event. Shevchenko won an unanimous five-round decision.

"I have been waiting so long for this moment," the 30-year-old Shevchenko said.

Jedrzejczyk (15-3-0) and Shevchenko (16-3-0) met at 125 pounds.

Shevchenko looked bigger and bulkier, taking Jedrzejczyk down a minute into the fight. Jedrzejczyk got back to her feet but had trouble gauging her striking distance early.

While she tried to find it, Shevchenko was content to counter. Shevchenko bodied Jedrzejczyk to the ground in the second, got side control and did damage as the round ended.

Shevchenko came on the third, bloodying Jedrzejczyk's nose. Jedrzejczyk was taken down again in the fourth.

## Three: Monken has resurrected Black Knights, rivalry with Navy

### FROM BACK PAGE

No matter his view, Army (10-2) always had the edge.

Army retained the CIC Trophy — awarded to the team with the best record in games among the three service academies — after winning it for the first time in 22 years last season and snuffed a late Navy (3-10) rally to retain possession of the patriotic prize.

With Navy down 10-7, quarterback Zach Abey lost a fumble on fourth-and-12 deep in its own territory. Hopkins scored on a 1-yard run to make it 17-7 and give Army the cushion it needed to win in front of 66,729 fans at Lincoln Financial Field.

Army hopped and waved hands in celebration during a replay timeout and got the cadets in the stands to bounce along. They had good reason to celebrate: Army has regained its grip in a series that had gotten out of hand. Navy had a series-best 14-game winning streak from 2002-2015 and leads the series 60-52-7.

"It's been hard on all of us. Our players, our coaches, our staff, our school," coach Ken Niumatalolo said. "We like to win. We've been winning a lot of games. Losing sucks."

Trump sat on the Army side in the first half and crossed the field to the Navy side at halftime. Trump officiated the coin toss and was introduced by public address announcer Dan Baker to a cheering crowd.

Navy won Trump's toss and elected to kick off. That was a mistake.

Kell Walker ran 51 yards to the 10 on the fourth play from scrimmage and Hopkins dashed in for the TD on the next play for a 7-0 lead.

"I think anything I did was just within the game plan," said Hopkins, the game's MVP.

In a series steeped in tradition — the "March On" and drumline battles, among them — perhaps none is more ingrained than the running game. Last year's game had a combined three pass attempts and quarterbacks for each team are usually the leading rushers. But Army and Navy passed on the rush and tried to throw, with mixed results. Army safety Jaylon McClinton had an interception in the first half. Army also dropped a key third-down pass that led to John Abercrombie's missed 33-yard field goal in the second quarter.

Abercrombie rebounded to kick a 33-yarder in the third for a 10-0 lead.

Last season's game was an instant classic and was decided by a field goal: Bennett Moehring narrowly



PHOTOS BY MATT SLOCUM/AP

Navy quarterback Zach Abey looks to pass during the first half of Saturday's game against Army in Philadelphia. The Black Knights won 17-10.

missed a 48-yarder in the snow on the final play and Army held off Navy 14-13.

Moehring made the extra point on Lewis' score and he kicked a 45-yard field goal with 29 seconds left. Malcom Perry's 43-yard run to the 5 set up Garrett Lewis' 1-yard rushing TD with 7:10 left in the game that pulled Navy to 10-7.

There were reminders all around the Linc, home of the Super Bowl champion Eagles, that this was no ordinary game. The Navy "Leap Frogs" parachute team earned a roar from the crowd with each safe landing on the field. Bill the Goat, Navy's mascot, was safely leashed and secured from a possible abduction attempt from overzealous cadets. And each side safely returned "captive" in the Prisoner Exchange — when seven midshipmen and seven cadets swap service academies for a semester. The Army prisoners spelled out "3-PEAT on the back of their uniforms."



Army's Ke'Shaun Wells celebrates after the Black Knights beat Navy 17-10 on Saturday.



## COLLEGE FOOTBALL



CRAIG RUTTLE/AP

Oklahoma quarterback Kyler Murray poses with the Heisman Trophy after winning the award on Saturday in New York. Oklahoma is the first school with three Heisman-winning quarterbacks in consecutive seasons. Baker Mayfield won the award last year.

# Oklahoma QB Murray wins Heisman Trophy

Sooners' multi-talented star beats out Alabama QB Tagovailoa

By RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Kyler Murray waited three years to fulfill the five-star potential he brought to college football. With one shot to deliver, Murray replaced a Heisman Trophy winner by becoming a Heisman Trophy winner.

The Oklahoma quarterback won college football's most prestigious individual award Saturday night, beating out Alabama's Tua Tagovailoa and setting up a College Football Playoff matchup of Heisman winner versus runner-up.

"This is crazy," Murray said in his acceptance speech. "This is an honor, something that I'll never forget. Something that I'll always cherish for the rest of my life."

The fourth-ranked Sooners play the top-ranked Crimson Tide in the Orange Bowl semifinal Dec. 29 in the seventh bowl matchup of Heisman winner and runner-up, and first since second-place finisher Vince Young and Texas beat Reggie Bush and Southern California in the 2006 Rose Bowl.

This season, Murray stepped into the starting job at Oklahoma held by last year's Heisman winner and first overall NFL draft pick, Baker Mayfield. Oklahoma is the first school with three Heisman-winning quarterbacks in consecutive seasons and the fifth overall with back-to-back winners. Mayfield was also a finalist in 2016.

"Luckily, we've been here three years in a row," Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley said. "We're going to have to start paying taxes here."

Unlike most seasons, the winner was no

## Heisman regional voting

NEW YORK — Regional points of the top three finalists in balloting for the 2018 Heisman Trophy:

### NORTHEAST

1. Kyler Murray, Oklahoma, 237
2. Tua Tagovailoa, Alabama, 274
3. Dwayne Haskins, Ohio State, 125

### MID-ATLANTIC

1. Murray, 360
2. Tagovailoa, 309
3. Haskins, 120

### SOUTH

1. Tagovailoa, 375
2. Murray, 356
3. Haskins, 114

### SOUTHWEST

1. Murray, 415
2. Tagovailoa, 323
3. Haskins, 119

### MIDWEST

1. Murray, 339
2. Tagovailoa, 291
3. Haskins, 202

### FAR WEST

1. Murray, 370
2. Tagovailoa, 299
3. Haskins, 103

Source: Associated Press

foregone conclusion, but Murray (517 first-place votes and 2,167 points) ended up with a fairly comfortable margin of 296 points over Tagovailoa. Ohio State quarterback Dwayne Haskins, the other finalists, was a distant third with 783 points. Three more quarterbacks followed: Will Grier of West Virginia, Gardner Minshew II of Washington State and McKenzie Milton of Central Florida.

Murray appeared on 92 percent of the Heisman ballots, third most all time. Tagovailoa's 1,871 points was the most for a runner-up in the 84-year history of the Heisman.

## Tide's Tagovailoa will be favored for award next season

By RALPH D. RUSSO

Associated Press

Tua Tagovailoa will be the odds-on favorite to win the Heisman Trophy next season after the Alabama quarterback had to settle for second to Oklahoma's Kyler Murray.

Murray is heading for professional baseball next year and Ohio State quarterback Dwayne Haskins, the other Heisman finalist on Saturday night, could very well enter the NFL draft. Assuming Haskins does go pro, along with a few other high-profile quarterbacks such as Oregon's Justin Herbert and Michigan's Shea Patterson, who else can challenge Tagovailoa?

Note: UCF quarterback McKenzie Milton would have made this list if not for a severe leg injury that makes his return to the field uncertain.

### Trevor Lawrence, QB, Clemson:

The strong-armed passer with the flowing blond hair became the Tigers' starter four games into

his freshman season and has been one of the best quarterbacks in the country since. Lawrence enters the College Football Playoff with 2,606 yards passing, 24 touchdowns passes and only four interceptions. Clemson leaned on the running game and tailback Travis Etienne (1,463 yards rushing and 22 touchdowns) at times this season to take the pressure off Lawrence. Etienne is back next season, too, but expect the Tigers to let Lawrence loose and the results to be spectacular.

### Jake Fromm, QB, Georgia:

Fromm got overlooked this season, with Tagovailoa, Haskins and Murray putting up crazy stats. But the Bulldogs' sophomore threw 27 touchdowns and

was third behind Tagovailoa and Murray in efficiency rating at 175.81. He'll be a third-year starter for a preseason top-five team in 2019 — if he can hold off Justin Fields, the five-star freshman who served as his backup this season. And Georgia's offense could flow through running back D'Andre Swift no matter who plays quarterback.

**Jalen Hurts, QB, Team TBD:** Tagovailoa's backup at Alabama is almost certain to transfer in the offseason after having graduated.

That means he can play immediately next season. He'll be college football's most prized free agent, a former "South-eastern Conference player of the year." Where he lands will help determine his Heisman hopes. Let's speculate. Oregon is coached by former Alabama assistant Mario Cristobal and the Ducks could be looking for a quarterback if Herbert

departs. Or how about Hurts at Oklahoma, trying to become the third straight Oklahoma quarterback to win the Heisman?

**Jonathan Taylor, RB, Wisconsin:** With a bowl game still to play, Taylor has rushed for 3,966 yards through his sophomore season, an NCAA record previously held

by Wisconsin Heisman winner Ron Dayne. The Badgers disappointed in 2018, starting in the top five and going 7-5. That killed Taylor's Heisman hopes. The Heisman has become a quarterback's award, but if the Badgers bounce back in 2019, Taylor can make a run.

**J. Daniels, QB, USC:** Daniels flashed five-star talent as a freshman starter for the Trojans, who stumbled to a 5-7 season. He will have a new offensive coordinator next year in former Texas Tech coach Kurt Kingsbury, who has a history of developing highly pro-

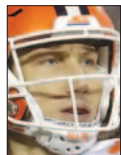
ductive quarterbacks — including 2012 Heisman winner Johnny Manziel at Texas A&M.

**Sam Ehlinger, QB, Texas:** The sophomore has a little Tim Tebow in his game, passing for 3,127 yards and 25 touchdowns and rushing for 541 and 13. If the Longhorns take another step forward and can overtake the Sooners in the Big 12, it would likely mean Ehlinger has stepped up, too. Though he could be losing two NFL-quality receivers in juniors Collin Johnson and Lil'DJordan Humphrey.

### Extra points

- Six more:
  - Adrian Martinez, QB, Nebraska
  - AJ Dillon, RB, Boston College
  - Jacob Eason, QB, Washington
  - D'Errik King, QB, Houston
  - Rondale Moore, WR, Purdue
  - Brock Purdy, QB, Iowa State

Follow Ralph D. Russo at <https://twitter.com/ralphdrusso> and listen at <https://podcastone.com/AP-Top-25-College-Football-Podcast>



Lawrence



Tagovailoa



Hurts



Taylor



## SPORTS



## Oklahoma roll

■ Murray awarded Heisman Trophy; Sooners 1st to have back-to-back QB winners, Page 31

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

## Three straight



MATT SLOCUM/AP

Army's Kelvin Hopkins Jr. passes during the first half of Saturday's game against Navy in Philadelphia. Hopkins Jr. had two rushing touchdowns as Army beat Navy 17-10.

## Bowl-bound No. 22 Army snuffs late Navy rally

BY DAN GELSTON  
Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA Army coach Jeff Monken hopped on top of a wall and pumped his fist toward stoked cadets set to belt out the alma mater. Monken brought the party to locker room and waved an "Army Football" flag as the Black Knights bounced around him.

Army ditched its mundane routines and cut loose like a bunch of rowdy civilians.

And why not? The setting was right after Army beat Navy for the third straight game, this time in front

of a packed house and the president.

"I don't ever want our guys to stop celebrating," Monken said. "I promise you, I'll be celebrating every year if we win this thing because I know how hard it is."

Monken resuscitated the Black Knights and turned a program that suffered annual losses to the Midshipmen into a bowl-bound team that can keep the Commander in Chief's Trophy back at West Point.

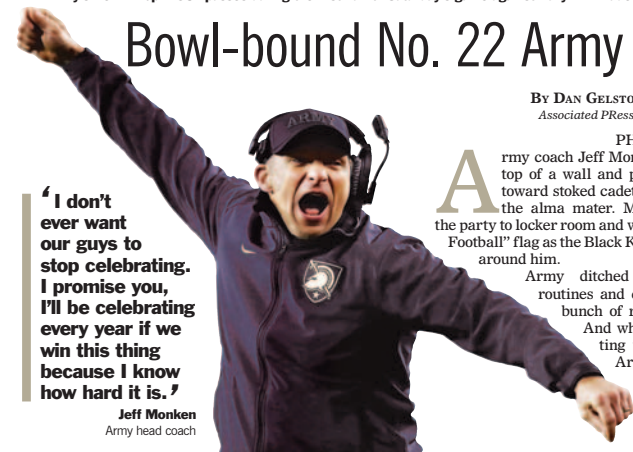
The No. 22 Black Knights recovered two fumbles in the fourth quarter, Kelvin Hopkins Jr. had two rushing touchdowns and Army beat Navy 17-10 on Saturday to win its third straight game in the series.

President Donald Trump attended the 119th game between the rivals and flipped the coin before spending a half on each side in a show of impartiality.

SEE THREE ON PAGE 30

**'I don't ever want our guys to stop celebrating. I promise you, I'll be celebrating every year if we win this thing because I know how hard it is.'**

Jeff Monken  
Army head coach



Holloway, Shevchenko victorious at UFC 231 » Page 30

